

# **ADA COORDINATOR**

The Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 USC, 4151 et seq.) requires certain federally assisted buildings to be constructed so as to be accessible to physically handicapped persons, and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC, 12101 et seq.) prohibits discrimination against the disabled individuals in private and public employment, public accommodations, public transportation, government services, and telecommunications.

The Town continues to utilize its Transition Plan to assist in its efforts to comply with ADA.

Respectfully submitted,  
Johanna Barry, ADA Coordinator

# **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Advisory Committee members are appointed by the Selectmen for three year overlapping terms, and we are charged with reviewing and making recommendations on all articles that appear in any warrant presented to the voters of West Brookfield. In calendar year 2008, we met twenty-four times, at an average of two hours per meeting, to fulfill our responsibilities. Agendas for all of our meetings are now posted on TVWB, and agendas and minutes are posted on the WB web page.

During 2008, committee member Bev Kenniston elected to step down, and we lost Peter Day to cancer. We will miss them in our deliberations, but we are fortunate to welcome Nicole Allen, Jack Tivnan, and Diane Vayda, who bring new and fresh perspectives to our discussions.

As we looked at the fiscal year 2009 financial request to support West Brookfield operational services, the clouds we saw on the horizon last year turned into a severe storm. The national and state economies are in recession. State support for cities and towns has been reduced 10% for fiscal year ending June 30, 2009 and we are expecting additional reductions for fiscal year 2010. Local property tax increases are limited to two and one-half percent and new growth in real estate activities and fee income sources have substantially diminished. In response, the West Brookfield Board of Selectmen has requested all departments to trim 5% from their approved fiscal year 2009 budgeted expenditures. For fiscal 2010 the Advisory Committee has requested that cost of living salary adjustments be limited to 2% (3% in prior years) and that budgeted expenses (excluding salary adjustments) be limited to 95% of the approved fiscal year 2009 budgeted expenses. It is too early in the process to project our share of the Quaboag Regional School budget, but we expect the increase for fiscal year 2010 to be less than the 8% increase for fiscal 2009. If the Governor has to cut expenses again in the next fiscal year, as he has had to do twice this fiscal year, we will have to revisit our projections and respond accordingly.

During this last year, we again compiled the capital spending requirements for the next five years and were provided with the following estimates:

Police Dept. facilities	\$2,000,000	Under review
Fire Dept. expansion	700,000	No activity at this time
Fire Dept. equipment	21,700	Thermal imaging camera & Turnout gear
WB Elementary School	1,050,000	Repairs & replacements
Quaboag Middle/High School	156,000	Repairs & replacements
Highway road maintenance	2,000,000	Town & Chapter 90 funds
Vehicle replacements	865,400	Fleet account projections
Water Dept. wells, pipes and filters	1,500,000	Funded in part with MTBE settlement
<b><i>Estimated Total</i></b>	<b><u>\$8,293,100</u></b>	

The Advisory Committee will be reviewing these items in more detail during 2009. Voters may be asked to fund some of these expenditures at the 2009 town meetings, and some will be postponed to future years. We are also looking into grants, loans, and other resources to fund some of these projects.

Our continuing updated vehicle purchase analysis for the next five years shared with voters at the town meetings has proven to be a useful tool. After discussions with department managers, we have deferred, for two years, a decision to purchase a new fire truck, and considered less expensive options for replacing police and fire vehicles.

With all of our financial needs and limited resources, we are going to have to continue to carefully manage our budget priorities over the next several years.

Respectfully submitted,  
Albert Collings, Chairman  
Nicole Allen  
Tom Schnare  
Diane Vayda

Phil Landine  
Roy Roberts  
Jack Tivnan

## ANIMAL INSPECTOR

In 2008 there was only one working dairy farm, owned by Jim Talvey; and one beef farm owned by Salems. David Salem runs the operation. There are numerous horse farms.

The U.S.D.A. is still trying to push for the “tagging” of animals. Goats and sheep must be tagged when sold.

### ANIMAL COUNT FOR 2008

Dairy cows	94
Dairy young stock	33
Beef cows	70
Beef young stock	14
Horses	90
Ponies	4
Mini-horses	75
Donkeys	7
Llamas	2
Goats	21
Sheep	41
Swine	48

Respectfully submitted,  
Barry J. Nadon, Sr.

# ANNUAL SALARY

Abair, Nicholas	\$164.00	D	Christakis, Margot	\$5,232.32
Adams, Kenai	\$2,197.30		Churchev, David	\$320.00
Allen, Sarah	\$34,970.33		Ciejka, Joseph	\$2,778.25
Allen, Virginia	\$2,630.67		Coulthard, Mary	\$123.75
Ambach, Walter	\$3,934.00		Courtemarche, Elaine	\$724.30
Anderson, Beverly	\$274.75		Couture, John	\$983.45
Anderson, Scott	\$1,739.13		Deremian, David	\$305.14
Arsenault, Keith	\$28,207.75		DiMaio, Elisabeth	\$22,072.75
Arsenault, Marie	\$47,069.27		Dolan, Danielle	\$331.50
Astrella, Marc	\$43,212.07		Dorman, Kevin	\$1,500.00
Ayers, Brian	\$13,881.79	D+	Dorman, Melvin	\$1,000.00
Ayotte, James	\$456.00	D	Dunivan, Kevin	\$142.00
Baird, Matthew	\$336.00	D	Eisenthal, David	\$900.00
Ball, Justyna	\$6,307.19		Farmosa, Denise	\$24,497.92
Barrett, Jason	\$336.00	D	Farmosa, Rosa	\$67.90
Barrett, Teresa	\$30,776.22		Frew, Betty	\$17,420.22
Barry, Johanna	\$54,374.38		Frew, Michael	\$150.00
Bassett, Rachael	\$758.02		Frizzell Sr, John	\$800.00
Bastien, Joanne	\$468.75		Fullam, Brandon	\$748.50
Batchelor, Timothy	\$9,831.15		Gogos, Paris	\$124.00
Benoit, Jason	\$72,718.92		Gogos, Stephen	\$366.00
Benson, Robert	\$10,358.74		Guntor, Sema	\$62.00
Bigos, Alan	\$24,131.63		Haire, Carol	\$167.75
Bishop, Thomas	\$503.00		Hartung, Kara	\$14,668.16
Boos, Robert	255.93		Healy, Andrew	\$2,040.40
Bordeau, Keith J.	\$12,069.12		Higgins, Devon	\$145.50
Bordeau, Sharon	\$8,235.54		Higgins, Jane	\$540.00
Borlikoski, Charlotte	\$135.75		Holmes, Steven	\$60.62
Borlikoski, Colby	\$3,353.20		Iwaniec, Eric	\$9,200.73
Brown, Marissa	\$7,250.98	D+	Jankins, Cody	\$360.75
Careau, Lisa	\$35,551.36		Jankins, Oliva	\$302.25
Carroll, Derek	\$489.39		Jorden-Careau, Benjamin	\$132.22
Casey, Elsie	\$97.00		Judycki, Amanda	\$451.05
Cassavant, Duane	\$41,551.71		Kelly, Kathleen	\$850.00
Cassavant, Mark	\$195.00		Kelton, Dorothy	\$99.75
Cassavant, Wesley	\$42,012.72		Kemp, Tammi	\$30,775.32
Charbonneau, Jessica	\$48.00		King, William R.	\$135.75
Charron, Brian	\$1,061.25		Korzec, Ashley	\$3,495.60
Chobot, Jr., John	\$1,620.00		Kozik, Elizabeth	\$19.40

Code: D = Detail pay      D+ = Detail plus salary

Kubaska, Brittany	\$221.00		Pease, Laurance	\$1,467.00	
La Montagne, Edwin	\$3,244.88		Pierce, David	\$5,142.32	D+
Lacroix, Pauline	\$135.75		Pontbriand, Jeremy	\$932.85	
Landry, Joseph	\$1,571.25		Pontbriand, Ryan	\$37,024.94	
Laperle, Charles	\$63,051.81	D+	Pratico, John	\$775.00	
LaPierre, Helen	\$105.75		Puduski, Donald	\$3,545.50	
Leslie, Brice	\$270.64		Rhodes, Roberta	\$2,641.50	
Livernois, Andrew	\$643.34		Roberts, Teri	\$16,015.34	
Loftus, Lynn	\$2,135.68		Ryan, Gail	\$96.00	
Long, Christine	\$6,641.59		Santos Jr, Daniel	\$2,187.38	
Long, Lisa	\$329.60		Saria, Andrew	\$699.10	
Long, Thomas	\$1,800.00		Sauve, Geraldine	\$4,631.82	
Lupacchino, Paul	\$2,717.75		Searah, Dana	\$1,564.00	
Lynch, William	\$79,711.55	D+	Seeton, Nancy	\$111.00	
Lyons, Pasqualina	\$197.75		Shattuck, Leah	\$3,347.54	
Mansfield, William	\$1,500.00		Simeone, Gary	\$9,460.78	
Marchessault, Ronald	\$63,220.00		Sokol, Laurie	\$126.00	
Marco, Carl	\$290.26		Spera, Robert	\$6,524.35	
Martin, Kyle	\$101.03		Swain, S. Patrick	\$66,949.67	D+
Mawhinney, Eric	\$5,868.59	D+	Takorian, Clay	\$6,777.55	
McCarthy, Kristin	\$1,064.10		Takorian, Holly	\$27,362.56	
McNeany, Jason	\$474.25		Taylor, Jeff	\$13,309.34	
McNitt, Alexandra	\$48.00		Tebo, David	\$2,622.38	
Merriam, Jessie	\$1,638.06		Thomasian, John	\$7,750.00	
Miner, Nicholas	\$629.50		Tivnan, John	\$996.66	
Mochi, Marie	\$4,754.12		Tivnan, Madelyn	\$30.00	
Nadon Sr, Barry	\$4,602.56		Veinot, Joan	\$1,443.00	
Nadon Jr, Barry	\$1,933.34		Vessella, Amy	\$329.92	
Nagle, Martin	\$962.19		Walker, Kimberly	\$30.00	
Norden, Cynthia	\$28,786.61		Walker, Peggy	\$47,241.01	
O'Donnell, Bernadette	\$135.75		Ward, Edwin	\$21,309.20	D+
O'Donnell Jr, C. Thomas	\$81,712.15		Waterman, Gregg	\$37,373.16	
Olson, Nancy	\$124.00		Whitehouse, Louise	\$135.75	
O'Neill, John	\$2,844.00		Wrobel, Jean	\$19,749.97	
O'Neill, Shannon	\$331.50				
Ozbavrak, Michael	\$36.00			\$1,466,434.47	
Paquette, Eleanore	\$99.75				
Paquette, Jason	\$800.00				
Paquette, Lester	\$350.00				
Parker, Harold	\$63,988.52	D+			

Code: D = Detail pay      D+ = Detail plus salary

# ASPARAGUS & FLOWER HERITAGE FESTIVAL

The annual festival was held on Saturday, May 17, 2008 on the Town Common from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Co-sponsors for the event were the Quaboag Historical Society and the West Brookfield Historical Commission. This year's event attracted almost seventy vendors, non-profit organizations, and exhibitors. Food vendors offered a variety of asparagus dishes, while growers offered asparagus roots and fresh asparagus. The Legend of Asparagus Cookbook, prepared by Ray and Caron Plante, sold out. Green "Asparagus" tote bags with the Festival logo were a new addition this year. The Cultural Council organized the Kids' Parade, and coordinated supervision of the Hay Bale Maze and other new children's activities by Quaboag High School students. The Frog Jumping contest organized by Ray Plante and Jeff Robbins awarded "gold coins" as prizes. Music was provided by Dick Chase, and Samantha Gillogly fiddled during the afternoon.

A "May Pole Dance," coordinated by Bridgett Johnson, was a great addition to the Festival. Samantha Gillogly provided violin music while dancers from the Betty Gunderson Dance Studio wove colorful ribbons around the May Pole.

We extend our thanks to the Cultural Council, the dancers, the musicians, and the Highway Department. Special thanks to Rudy Arn, who portrayed Diederick Leertouwer and led the Kids' Parade.

This year we experienced the loss of Will Earley, a great supporter of this event, who truly enjoyed his role as Diederick Leertouwer.

Committee members in 2008 were: Roger Allen, Amy Dugas, George and Elaine Hibbard, Bridgett Johnson, Cindy Laub, Ruth Lyon, Ray and Caron Plante, Dick and Barbara Rossman, and Joan Veinot.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Rossman, Secretary

## **BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

Our town has 2,500 parcels:

- 1,370 Residential Improved Parcels
- 807 Vacant Parcels
- 181 Commercial/Industrial/Mixed Use Parcels
- 142 Personal Property

The value of all taxable property for Fiscal Year 2008 was \$417,964,551 and our new growth for Fiscal Year 2008 was \$6,147,748. The Fiscal Year tax rate is \$9.69 per thousand. We are still calculating two debt exclusions in our tax rate.

The Assessors will be conducting a complete Revaluation of all property in the Town for Fiscal Year 2011 with the assistance of a real estate consulting firm. In the past, the Revaluation has resulted in large increases in the assessed value of properties because the adjustments were made every three years. However, the



State Department of Revenue now requires interim year adjustments which have resulted in much smaller fluctuations in assessed values.

In addition, the Assessors continue to implement the state law passed by the legislature (Chapter 59, Section 2D), which allows towns to issue supplemental real estate tax bills to property owners who make improvements to their property equal to more than fifty percent (50%) of the property's prior value. These bills are triggered by the issuance of occupancy permits and prorated according to the date on the occupancy permit.

The Assessors continue to work very closely with the Building Inspector because the Town requires building permits on almost all improvements made to your property. These building permits aid in correctly valuing a property's worth. Upon notification by the Building Inspector of permits issued, the Assessors will visit the property to verify and photograph it. Prior to our inspection, the property owner will receive a questionnaire from our office for them to complete. This will assure us that our records are correct. ***We ask that anyone who receives one of these questionnaires take the time to complete it and return it to us.*** When these forms are not returned to our office, we cannot make the necessary changes to ensure that the information we have on file is accurate.

#### **ADDRESS CORRECTIONS:**

The bulk of information used in the Assessors' Office is indexed by address. ***It is essential that you inform our office of any changes in your address as soon as the change occurs.*** It certainly will help us to serve you

more efficiently and prevent the necessity of duplicate mailings at an added cost to the taxpayers.

In addition, if a property owner has a Post Office Box number, it is imperative that we have this for our records. The Post Office in West Brookfield will **not** deliver mail without the correct Post Office Box number. If you are not sure that we have your box number on file, please contact this office for verification.

### **MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX BILLS:**

Many people come to our office with questions regarding their Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Bills. The Registry of Motor Vehicles sends computerized data to all towns and the bills are then printed and mailed from the Tax Collector's Office. The information you receive on your bill is based on data the Registry of Motor Vehicles has in their files for any calendar year beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>. Please pay particular attention to the "*Garaging Location*" on your insurance form. If you have any changes in this location or in any other information, you must notify the Registry of Motor Vehicles so that your license, registration and Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Bills are correct. This also ensures that you receive a bill at your correct address.

In addition, if you have sold a motor vehicle during the year, you may apply for an abatement of your excise bill by completing an application and providing our office with proof of the sale, as well as a copy of the Plate Return Receipt, or new registration if you transferred your license plates.

Our door is always open and we welcome any comments or questions. We are proud to provide a very

personalized service to you, and enjoy the opportunity to meet with many of you throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,  
William Mansfield, Chairman  
Kevin Dorman  
Peggy Walker, Clerk  
Melissa Wahl, Secretary

## BOARD OF HEALTH

During the past year, the board of Health has generated approximately \$15,000.00 through various required permit fees. The fees are as follows:

Septic Permit	\$200.00	Perc Test	\$150.00
Septic Installers	\$50.00	Septic Haulers	\$50.00
Trash Haulers	\$50.00	Retail Food	\$50.00
Food Service	\$50.00	Food Catering	\$50.00
Milk Store	\$10.00	Body Art	\$180.00
Tanning	\$15.00	Mobile Home	varies

The following Immunization services were provided by the Harrington Home Care:

Flu Vaccine	178	Pneumonia Vaccine	4
-------------	-----	-------------------	---

The Board of Health issued the following permits:

Perc	24	Septic	11
------	----	--------	----

Food	37	Milk	16
Tanning	2	Septic Installer	21
Motel/Campground	3	Mobile Home Park	1
Pool	2	Septage Hauling	6
Trash Hauling	5		

The Board of Health is enlisting volunteers for the Worcester Regional Medical Reserve Corps. The Worcester MRC was recently established for volunteers in the event of an emergency, locally and regionally. Volunteers will be trained and prepared to staff Emergency Dispensing Sites (EDS) and respond to any type of public health disaster. To become a Worcester Regional MRC Volunteer:

- 1.) Visit us at [www.worcesterregionalmrc.org](http://www.worcesterregionalmrc.org)
- 2.) Complete the Form
- 3.) Submit the form online

*All residents over eighteen are encouraged to join.*

With the help of the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission, the Town of West Brookfield has a low interest loan program for the repair of septic systems. Contact the Administrative Assistant for further information.

***The Board of Health meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the West Brookfield Town Hall, Room LL4. The public is invited to attend.***

***The Board of Health telephone number is 867-1421 ext. 310. Office hours are:***

*Monday 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.*  
*Tuesday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.*  
*Tuesday evening 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.*

John Thomasian, Title V Agent  
Joanne Petterson-Bernier, Health Agent  
Sarah J. Allen, Administrative Assistant  
Walter Ambach, Floor Drain Inspector  
Virginia Allen, Clerk  
James Talvy, Outdoor Wood Boiler Inspector

Respectfully submitted,  
Melvin Dorman, Chairman  
Jason Paquette  
John Frizzell

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

The start of every calendar year finds the Board of Selectmen well into the budget planning process for the coming fiscal year as well as working on the creation of a Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting, which is held on the first Tuesday each May.

The Board approved the purchase of a 1999 Sweeper from the City of Gardner for a not to exceed value of \$30,000; for the highway department.

The Board approved Grodsky Service Incorporated's quote of \$9,500 to replace two (2) of the four (4) heating pumps located at the WBES; noting that the

repairs appear to be critical to the provision of heat at the WBES.

Noting that Local 170 had received enrollment cards from all members of the highway staff, the Board voted to voluntarily recognize the Teamster Union, Local 170, on behalf of the Highway Department.

The Board held a surplus auction.

Mr. John D. MacMillan, AIA President, Reinhardt Associates & the Board agreed on a Basic Fixed Fee of \$16,500 for Rubber Roof Replacement Design Services for the WBES.

Upon receiving a “clean bill of health” from the Hazardous Materials Coordinator, the Board voted to accept 20 White Birch Drive on donation.

Noting ratification by the patrolmen, the Board voted to accept the Patrolmen’s Contract as agreed by the New England Police Benevolent Association & Board on March 25, 2008.

Mr. Tom Ashe & Mr. Anthony Petrone, Worcester County Sheriff’s Office, provided the Board with an overview of the emergency Reverse 911 system; recently acquired from the Central Region Homeland Security Advisory Council by the Worcester County Sheriff’s Department. The Board executed a contract for services at no charge to the Town, noting that cost would be covered through 2010 by a grant.

The Board authorized the hiring of a sixth police officer. The Board hired Officer Edwin Ward on July 29, 2008.

The Board approved the 2010 Quaboag Plantation Ball Committee's request to use the Great Hall for their Gala Ball on Saturday, January 2, 2010.

The Board hired D.P. Carney Construction, Inc., 34 Horseshoe Circle, Ware, as Contractor for the Rubber Roof Replacement Project at the WBES for a value of \$221,149.00.

The Board approved a Conservation Restriction under C184 s32 for Jane Taylor, Ragged Hill Road to the East Quabbin Land Trust – 48.89 acres.

The Board held ongoing discussions with the Interim-School Superintendent and the School Committee relating to discrepancies with the student population in the Quaboag Regional School District; stating that their primary goal is to have the student count accurate for FY2010.

The Board executed a TRIAD Agreement with the Worcester County Sheriff's Department on September 23, 2008. The TRIAD Agreement will provide the Town access to many programs including Reverse 911, the "Are You OK?" Program, Free Signage Programs, Cell Phone Banks, Safety Education Programs for the Elderly and Disabled, - and many more.

The Board accepted a Settlement Check from **GAF** for \$31,000 cash for defective shingles on the Elementary School.

The Board accepted two (2) Settlement Checks (\$2,510,814.43 and \$38,277.03) from **Baron & Budd, PC** relating to MTBE Products Liability Litigation.

The Selectmen wish to thank all those working for the town of West Brookfield in any capacity, whether as an unpaid volunteer, an elected/appointed official, or hired employee.

Townspeople are encouraged to attend any meetings of interest and actively participate in the workings of local government.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barry Nadon, Jr.  
Tom Long  
David Eisenthal



# BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Information for the year ending December 31, 2008 is as follows:

**Total Population** **3,606**

## Voter Registration

American Independent	2
Democrat	612
Green Party USA	0
Green Party RAINBOW	3
Inter. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party	3
Libertarian	5
Republican	391
Un-Enrolled	1,582
Working Families	7
<b>Voter Total</b>	<hr/> <b>2,605</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah J. Allen  
Roberta M. Rhodes  
Robert Spera  
Anna May Zabek

# BURIAL GROUND COMMISSION

Our Commission has the oversight of three separate cemeteries: The Pine Grove Cemetery on Church Street, The Old Indian Cemetery on Cottage Street, and The Methodist Cemetery on Lyons Road.

The Commission would like to thank all those who have cared for the lots of their loved ones this past year, and to remind everyone that we have Spring (second week in April) and Fall (last week in October) clean-ups, at which time all items should be removed.

We have had a few incidences of vandalism to the old headstones, so we ask you to please call the West Brookfield Police Department if you see any suspicious activity. ***Also, please be advised that out of respect for our deceased, dogs are not allowed in the cemetery at any time.***

For genealogy questions please contact our clerk, Teri Roberts, via e-mail at [troberts@wbrookfield.com](mailto:troberts@wbrookfield.com), or the postal service, at Pine Grove Cemetery, PO Box 912, West Brookfield, MA 01585.

2008 Pine Grove Cemetery Burials:

## From West Brookfield

Nils Anderson  
Sophie Fenner  
Katherine Gay  
Winthrop Gay  
Henry Hennessy

Jeanette Howland  
Judith Lucier  
Russell Dick

Out of Town

Nancy Burgess	Leicester, MA
William Ducey	Ware, MA
John Hall	Charlton, MA
Robert Hill	Worcester, MA
Madeline Nerreau	North Brookfield, MA
Robert Nerreau	Naugatuck, CT
Dorothy Parker	Fort Myers, FL

Respectfully submitted,  
John Bartlett, Chairman  
Marjorie Reim  
Kevin M. Roberts

# COMMON COMMITTEE

The West Brookfield Town Common continues to be a popular location for our community's activities. This year the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Congregational Church Tag Sale on the common drew major crowds. The Asparagus Festival also is growing in popularity. T-ball and youth soccer practices and games were played. The summer concerts at the Helen Schackley Bandstand were once again a popular draw. We thank the Friends of the Bandstand Music Committee for their hard work in providing outstanding entertainment for our community. The July 4<sup>th</sup> bonfire continues to be a real crowd pleaser. The first snowfall of the year fell on the day of the White Christmas in West Brookfield event, which drew crowds despite the cold and snow. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the organizations that have used our town Common and made living in our community a special experience.

This year we would like to bid farewell and thanks to Marc Varnum for his years of service to the Common Committee as Chairperson. Robert Richard has accepted the position of Chairperson. We would like to welcome Teri Roberts who assumed the position of Treasurer. Jaclyn Von Bleicken continues to serve as the committee's Secretary.

This year we began planning for the 350<sup>th</sup> Quaboag Plantation Anniversary in 2010. Our goal is to have the Common be in excellent condition for the celebration and to maintain the simple elegance that has defined our town Common for generations. We established a lawn

fertilization/maintenance program and are researching possible lighting options (e.g., lampposts). We are also planning for the trimming of the existing trees and replacement of trees due to storm damage. Any comments or suggestions can be made to the e-mail address [common@wbrookfield.com](mailto:common@wbrookfield.com).

We would like to thank Alan Bigos, our groundskeeper, and John Bartlett of the Cemetery Department for their continued work in maintaining the common grounds.

We have enjoyed serving our Common and the Town of West Brookfield.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert J. Richard, Chairperson  
Teri Roberts, Treasurer  
Jaclyn Von Bleicken, Secretary

## CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Conservation Commission member Ed Kwasniewski passed away after an illness in December.

During the year the Conservation Commission was involved with numerous permits, site visits and meetings regarding the enforcement of the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act. We held public hearings for ten (10) *Notices of Intent*; seven (7) *Requests for Determinations*; two (2) *abbreviated Notices of Intent*, and one (1) *abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation*. We

issued two extension permits for extension of *Notice of Intent*s and one *Certificate of Compliance* was issued.

Please visit our web site at <http://wbrookfield.com>. All forms, as well as instructions for completing, are located at this site and can be downloaded for your convenience. Minutes of our meetings may be viewed here as well.

The Conservation Commission wishes to remind all property owners that Massachusetts General Law states that any work proposed within 100-feet of any wetland (rivers, streams, lakes, marshes, bogs, or seasonally wet area) or 200-feet from any perennial stream requires a filing of a *Request for Determination of Applicability*.

An Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program is also in place to assist and encourage the retention of the Commonwealth's best farmland. The program is a permanent solution for maintaining an agricultural land base for local food production. Any interested landowners should contact the Commission for more information.

The Conservation Commission meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Lower Level Conservation Office in the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gordon DeWolf, Chairman  
John Hooven  
Richard Provencher  
Brian Silva  
Diane Oliver-Jensen  
Jessie Serrano

# COUNCIL ON AGING

We would like to thank the Council on Aging for their continued support and dedication to the Senior Center and our senior citizens.

In the year 2008 we have introduced several new programs and continue to expand our activities. We hosted a successful Fall Open House to celebrate National Senior Center Week and took pleasure in hosting a fourth White Christmas Open House. Our third annual Veterans Appreciation Dinner was a great success, and well deserved by our veterans. This was made possible by a car show, businesses, and individuals who donated to this worthy program and to whom we are deeply grateful. We very much appreciate the continued support from the community, which allows us to hold such great community events.

We value all our 185 dedicated volunteers who have donated a total of 10,650 hours in FY2008. Tri-Valley Inc. continues to provide the nutrition program including Meals on Wheels and lunch at the senior center. In FY 2008, there were over 20,000 home-delivered meals and more than 2,000 congregate meals served at the senior center.

We are very grateful for the donation made by the Friends of the Council which allowed us to purchase a sound system and a floor buffer. In addition, we are thankful to all who have donated items from our wish list in the Silverstreak Newsletter (including paper napkins, paper plates, small kitchen items, tablecloths, large cans of coffee, etc.).

We continue to provide information and referral, outreach, reassurance calls, and other individual services that help seniors and their families cope with problems related to aging. The Senior Center continues to offer the Medica Program (medical transportation) and several clinics including blood pressure, flu clinic, cholesterol screening, Veterans' Agent, AARP tax assistance, and other medical screenings.

The mission for the Council on Aging of the West Brookfield Senior Center is to enhance the lives of our senior citizens by providing information, referral services, and opportunities for socialization and recreation.

Please feel free to contact us at our e-mail address [wbseniorcenter@charterinternet.com](mailto:wbseniorcenter@charterinternet.com).

*We thank, once again, all our volunteers who have spent many hours setting up and cleaning up for all the special programs. We are so lucky to have so many volunteers who make the West Brookfield Senior Center the **BEST!***

Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia Norden, Director  
James Pierce, COA Chair



# EARTH REMOVAL BOARD

“Earth Material Excavation Requiring a Permit”:  
More than 500 cubic yards of soil excavated in any one year. Excavation incidental to the construction of buildings or other accessory uses and expansions may be exempt, provided that the quantity of materials removed shall not exceed that displaced by the portion of the building or accessory use below grade, and all required permits by the West Brookfield By-laws and/or Zoning By-laws have been issued. Other exceptions are: excavation in the course of customary agricultural use of land for a farm, garden, or nursery; excavation of material subject to a licensed issued under M.G.L. Chapter 40 Subsection 21 (7); excavation in compliance with the specific requirements of an approved subdivision plan; and excavation in the normal use of a cemetery.

“Earth Material” includes soil, sand, gravel, stones, topsoil, peat, muck, loam, bedrock, or other earth materials from any land in the town.

The Earth Removal Board continues to manage three (3) active permits relative to earth material excavation under Section XII Section 2 of the Town’s General By-laws.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Paquette, Chairman (HEALTH)  
Bob Lipovsky (PLANNING)  
Tom Long (SELECTMEN)  
Gordon DeWolf (CONSERVATION)  
Richard Aube (ZONING)

# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Office of Emergency Management is responsible for assisting town agencies in both handling and preventing of disasters, whether natural or man-made. The office is responsible for the creation and updating annually of the Community Emergency Management Plan and insuring the town's compliance with regulations adopted by both the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

During the past year, we have been busy with two main projects involving regionalization of services. It has been widely recognized that no one town has the ability or resources to effectively handle a major catastrophe, such as Hurricane Katrina or the December 2008 ice storms. To insure a rapid and sufficient response to major emergencies, several local emergency managers have joined together to explore the possibility of forming a regional alliance. A more formal arrangement than simple mutual aid, forming a regional group will allow us to vie for competitive grants that would be unavailable to single entities, while still retaining our individual authority. In doing so, we hope to be able to stockpile equipment and attract volunteers to serve as a resource pool in the event of an emergency. We hope to have this regional committee up and running by the end of 2009.

2008 also saw the formation of the Quaboag Valley Regional Emergency Planning Committee. Located out of Wing Memorial Hospital, the group includes both public and private entities. The focus of the group is to create a multi-discipline approach to hazard mitigation. We are

looking for wider participation from the private sector, especially those businesses that are Tier II reporters. The committee meetings are open to the public and are held in Palmer at Wing. Meeting times and dates are posted in the Town Hall.

Anyone interested in joining the Planning Committee or volunteering is asked to contact me either by phone **(508) 867-1405** or e-mail at [ctodonnell@wbrookfield.com](mailto:ctodonnell@wbrookfield.com).

Respectfully submitted,  
C. Thomas O'Donnell, Jr.  
Director of Emergency Management

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

For the year of 2008, the West Brookfield Fire Department responded to a total of 159 emergency calls which include building fires, motor vehicle accidents, wild-land fires, hazardous material spills, water/ice rescues, fire alarms, and several other public assistance incidents.

One of the important parts of public safety is our Safety and Compliance Inspection Program, which is coordinated by Deputy Chief Robert Benson, consisting of:

### **Installations:**

OIL BURNERS  
OIL TANKS  
PROPANE TANKS

### **Inspections:**

SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS  
COMMERCIAL BUILDING SPRINKLER SYSTEMS  
STATE MANDATED NURSING HOME INSPECTIONS  
FUEL TANK SAFETY INSPECTIONS  
LIQUOR LICENSE BUILDING SAFETY INSPECTIONS

### **Other Services:**

UNDERGROUND TANK REMOVAL  
BLASTING PERMITS  
BON-FIRE PERMITS

*There were 102 calls for inspections in 2008.*

Our annual brush burning season was very active for 2008. There were about 40 calls for brush fires and escaped burning permits, which unfortunately resulted in some structures being lost. There were 239 burning permits issued in 2008.

To obtain a burning permit you must first come to the Fire Station on a Saturday during burning season between **8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. *Burning season runs from January 15<sup>th</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>.***

Our Intensive Training Program is a never ending task, coordinated by Training Lieutenant Scott Anderson. We, as a department, constantly train throughout the year keeping our skills and education at a high level to better serve the residents of West Brookfield.

Another responsibility of the Fire Department is the S.A.F.E. Program (Student Awareness to Fire Education). Coordinated by Firefighter Paul Lupacchino, this program teaches young students hands on fire safety and how the local emergency services protect their town.

## 2008 Members

Chief Timothy Batchelor  
Deputy Chief Robert Benson  
Captain Daniel Santos  
Lieutenant Wes Cassavant  
FF Joseph Landry  
FF Paul Lupacchino  
FF Jason McNeany  
FF Larry Pease  
FF Brian Charron  
Training Lieutenant Scott Anderson  
Haz-Mat Coordinator Walter Ambach  
FF Dana Searah  
FF Dave Tebo  
FF Nick Minor  
FF Marty Nagle  
New Recruit John Pensinger  
New Recruit Jacob Pensinger

Another year has passed and I have served the town now for seven years. It has been a pleasure working for a municipality that supports its emergency services.

*I would like to extend appreciation and thanks to present and past members of the West Brookfield Fire Department who have kept the town safe with dedication and professionalism. A special thanks to all the town departments and employees who assist us throughout the year.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Timothy Batchelor, Fire Chief

# GAS & PLUMBING INSPECTOR

The following is a compilation of Gas and Plumbing Inspections performed during the year 2008:

## Gas

Ranges	2	Direct Vent Heaters	4
Grilles	4	Pool Heaters	1
Heating Boilers	10	Underground Lines	6
Furnaces	6	Fireplaces	3
Unit Heaters	5	Cook Top Ranges	1
Water Heaters	3		

## Plumbing

Water Closets	22	Slop Sinks	2
Kitchen Sinks	13	Water Piping	11
Lavatories	28	Backflow Prev.	8
Bathtub	13	Solar H.W.H.	1
Shower Stalls	12	3-bay Sink	1
Dishwashers	9	Hand Sink	1
Laundry Trays	1	Grease Traps	2
Wash. Machine Conn.	11	Water Filter	1
Hot Water Tanks	16	Septic Tie-in	1
Tank-less	4		

Respectfully submitted,  
Joseph Ciejka, Gas & Plumbing Inspector  
Carl Marco, Assistant Inspector

# HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATOR

For the year 2008, as the Hazardous Waste Coordinator, I responded to ten calls. They were as follows:

Calls for the clean-up of fluids from Automobile accidents	4
Call for the clean-up of oil/hydraulic leaking from CMD Disposal	1
Call for an oil leak on a delivery truck	1
Call for a gasoline spill from a pick-up truck in North Brookfield	1
Call for an oil/hydraulic spill from an Excavator loader in North Brookfield	1
Call for an oil clean-up from a sinking boat at Town Boat Club	1
Inspection of property for Hazardous Material	1

Respectfully submitted,  
Walter Ambach, Hazardous Waste Coordinator

# HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The cycle of events during this year was the same: mowing, sweeping, tree removal, stump removal, plowing, sanding, and repairs and maintenance to the equipment.

John Gilbert Road was the most significant road project of the year. The work involved the removal of many trees, the installation of thirteen (13) catch basins which was followed by 1,360 feet of pipe. The surface was then reclaimed and paved with a first course binder. Though the project is not complete, the spring will allow for the final coat of asphalt. John Gilbert Road represents over a mile of roadway, and, when completed, will have cost a total of \$260,000.00.

The Highway Department wished that more money was available to satisfy more road improvements. Other paving projects and costs included: Moorings Way, \$12,000.00; Church Street Extension, \$10,256.00; and Charmil Drive, \$8,870.00. The residents of both Moorings Way and Church Street Extension paid for 50% of the paving cost based upon their existence as private ways.

The ice storm of December 11<sup>th</sup>, though not significant, created a State of Emergency for the region. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) granted cities and towns the ability to receive 75% reimbursement of eligible costs. Extensive documentation from the Highway Department netted \$19,509.00 in reimbursements.

I remain extremely grateful to have such a competent and hardworking crew.



Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Benoit, Highway Superintendent

## WIGWAM ROAD “DROP-OFF” CENTER

Hours of operation:

**Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

(Please note these hours are subject to change)

**TIRES:** \$2.00 without rims                      \$3.00 with rims

Commercial or Truck Tires will be priced on site by attendant according to size.

**SCRAP METALS:** (Including white goods)

Any motor *must have* fluids drained  
Used Motor Oil \* Antifreeze \* Oil Filters

**BATTERIES:** *Must have* caps attached

**LEAVES/GRASS CLIPPINGS:** (No bags, *please*)

Brush *no larger* than  
3-inches in diameter and 4-feet in length.

**THE DROP-OFF CENTER IS FOR RESIDENTIAL USE ONLY.  
RULES AND REGULATIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS MARKET  
FLUCTUATES.**

# HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Historical Commission met monthly, January to June and September to December, in the Commission office, Room 201 in the Town Hall.

The Commission website, [www.westbrookfield.org](http://www.westbrookfield.org) continues to be updated by member Nancy Parker. Information on the original “*Planters*” who settled on Foster Hill has been added. The site continues to average over 400 hits per month.

In January, photo titles and credits were given to the graphic artist who began layout and design for “*The History of West Brookfield 1675 – 1990*”. Later in the year Commission members began work on the index, the last step in preparation for printing. A file set of 8”x10” duplicate photos were organized for the Commission archives.

Commission members continue participation in planning the “350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Quaboag Plantation” in 2010. Members reviewed a forty-eight page booklet “The Planters of Brookfield” prepared by descendant Chuck Prichard. Madelyn Tivnan edited the booklet, and Chuck Prichard provided printed copies for descendant families who attended informational meetings on October 15 and 16. Commission members attended these meetings held at Salem Cross Inn. The Commission funded the purchase of twenty-five commemorative coins, which were given to the descendants, and funded the barbecue for them on Foster Hill on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Several family histories and papers were given to the Commission by those attending. The

installation of five new “*Entering Quaboag Plantation*” signs was coordinated with the Highway Department in October. The Commission purchased and had framed prints of the “Original Town Plots”. One was hung in the Selectmen’s Office and one was given to the owners of the farm on Foster Hill.

Once again, the Commission sponsored the Isaiah Thomas Patriot – Printer Program for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade at the West Brookfield Elementary School and co-sponsored the Asparagus and Flower Heritage Festival on the common in May. Members also voted to fund a field trip to Old Sturbridge Village for the Elementary School.

Other activities during the year include:

- ☞ Worked with Selectmen to implement the Town Hall Maintenance Plan.
- ☞ Awarded the “*Boston Post Cane*” to Miriam Potter, the oldest citizen of our town, on November 18<sup>th</sup>.
- ☞ Continued work on the “*Old Bay Path Indian Trail*”. A land trust is working with us in an attempt to preserve a significant historical site, which is a key component to the trail.
- ☞ Preparation of a “*Walking Tour of the Old Indian Cemetery*” by member Bill Leslie.
- ☞ Reviewed and commented on proposed changes to School Street, which would affect the Center Historic District.
- ☞ Repaired and repainted “*Center Historic District*” sign on the common.
- ☞ Continued research and preparation of the National Historic Register nomination for the Jedediah Foster Home site by member Amy Dugas,

- ☞ Worked with CMRPC and DCR on “*Heritage Landscape Inventory*”, which highlights seven significant and unprotected sites in town.
- ☞ Partnered with Friends of the Library to purchase fifty Old Sturbridge Village passes.
- ☞ Began research to determine Historic Register nomination eligibility for the Lucy Stone Home site. The Trustees of Reservations will assist in this project.
- ☞ Provided historic brochures for the “*Historic Hunt*” conducted in October.

Once again a generous gift was received from the J. Irving and Jane L. England Charitable Trust. This gift, along with the support of the Town, enabled us to undertake the projects outlined. We express our endless gratitude for this support.

The 2008 Members and Associate Members are:

Angela Carville	Bill Leslie
Ed Dow	Ed Londergan
Amy Dugas	Nancy Parker
Dave Fitzgerald	Barbara Rossman
Joan Fitzgerald	Richard Rossman

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Rossman, Chairman

# HOUSING AUTHORITY

The West Brookfield Housing Authority meets on the third Monday of each month at the Community Building, located at Olde Village Place at 29 East Main Street. The meetings are held at 9:00 a.m. and are open to the public. The Annual Meeting and Election of Officers are held in May of each year. All meetings are posted with the Town Clerk.

There are four elected members of the Housing Authority and one member who is appointed by the Governor. They are as follows: John Murphy, Chairman; Phyllis Warriner, Beverly Anderson, and Michael Frew. The Governor's appointed position is currently vacant.

We currently employ three staff members as follows: Christine Evans, Executive Director; Keith Bordeau, Maintenance Manager; and Fiona Andrews, Office Assistant.

There are currently three Housing Programs in management at the Olde Village Place location. The Chapter 667 Elderly/Handicapped Housing Program consists of 36 one-bedroom apartments. Our Chapter 705 Family Housing Program consists of ten units of housing. There are six (6) three-bedroom units and four (4) two-bedroom units. Also located on our site is a Chapter 689 Program which is administered by The Bridge of Central Mass. All programs were established and funded by the Department of Housing and Community Development and are operated under state guidelines.

Applications for any of our housing programs are available by contacting or visiting our office, located at

Building 7. Eligibility for all housing programs is based on the net income limits established by the state, and rents are currently based on 30% of net income in Chapter 667 housing, and 27% of net income in Chapter 705 housing. Applicants are offered housing from our waiting list, and preference is given to Veterans residing in West Brookfield, as well as persons from the town who have lived here for more than nine months, **or** who are employed in this community. To discuss housing opportunities, please call **508-867-5891** on **Monday and Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. and Friday mornings from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.** We consider ourselves to be partners in an effort to meet the growing need for affordable housing units in this community, and welcome inquiries at any time.

We extend our sincere thanks to the West Brookfield Police, Fire, and Rescue Departments for their caring dedication to the safety and security of our residents.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Evans, Executive Director

# INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

Single Family Dwellings	6
Sheds	1
Additions	8
Roofing	20
Garages	3
Windows/Siding	18
Renovations/Remodeling	12
Stoves: Pellet/Wood	55
Pools: In-ground/Above-ground	12
Signs	0
Decks	4
Demolition	0
Barns	0
Pavilion/Gazebo	0
Antenna/Cell tower	0
ADA Ramp	0
Multi-family	0
Total	<u>139</u>

Total permit income	\$14,727.00
Estimated value on permits	\$1,806,166.42

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeff Taylor, Inspector of Buildings

# LAKE WICKABOAG PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION “LWPA”

*This is an independent association. Its members are neither elected nor appointed by Town Officials.*

We started the 2008 season with the ability to see almost seven feet down into the lake using our Sechi Disk. However, by mid June, we began to observe deterioration in clarity, only to see it reverse in late June. We scheduled our algae treatment for the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July, earlier than the last few years. During August, we encountered excessive amounts of Chara, an alga that appears string-like and can be mistaken for a weed form. The contractors we have spoken to have suggested that this is actually a beneficial alga as it grows low to the bottom and can limit weed growth. However, the amount we experienced was significant enough to warrant a treatment. The treatment did not work. Since it was late in the season, we elected not to try another treatment and will monitor this life form carefully in 2009. The contractor has offered to do one treatment for Chara at his expense in 2009, if he is awarded the contract. We are not alone with algae management problems. There are few local, reliable, and accurate algae analysts and not enough research has been done to compare our results to scientific data sources. We may struggle with this lake management issue for several more years.

Each year working with Lycott Environmental, we conduct several weed surveys of the lake. Our initial



analysis, this year, identified a small portion of variable milfoil near the Bradish Brook out flow to the lake and pondweed from the sandbar south along the east shore. With the treatment on June 29<sup>th</sup>, we just about eliminated these problem areas. However, during July, we discovered a new weed, Elodea, in the cove near the dam and we needed a special treatment to eliminate the plant.

In addition to the lake monitoring, we hosted another successful lake clean up, convened an educational annual meeting, published spring and fall newsletters, and supported dam maintenance activities. Working with the Stormwater Authority and consultants from ESS, we were very pleased that the Town of West Brookfield was awarded a 319 Grant of \$60,000.00 for a project on Wickaboag Valley Road to limit the amount of run-off contaminants flowing into the lake. The LWPA will be providing some dollars and member time as part of the match funding requirements of the grant.

The Third Annual *Decorated Waterfront Contest* was held on July 4<sup>th</sup>, without the torrential rain of 2007. We had nearly thirty excited participants.

During 2009 we will expand our lake monitoring program and continue publication of our newsletters and will conduct another lake clean up. We would like to expand the clean up program to include the entire town and will be looking for volunteers for that effort. The Fourth Annual *Decorated Waterfront Contest* will be held again on July 4<sup>th</sup>. We hope to award a second matching grant under the **“Vegetative Buffer/Stormwater Grant Program”** from LWPA funds.

Annual Budget Figures  
Fiscal Year July 1 to June 30

	05 – 06	06 – 07	07 – 08	08 – 09	09 – 10
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Estimate
Weed Management	\$ 9,500	\$ 9,800	\$ 4,800	\$ 4,800	\$ 5,000
Algae Management	\$ 3,200	\$ 5,500	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500
Water Testing/Projects	\$ 6,200	\$ 5,000	\$ 692	\$ 5,610	\$ 5,410
Total	\$ 18,900	\$ 20,300	\$ 11,992	\$ 16,910	\$ 16,910
Budget	\$ 20,900	\$ 20,900	\$ 20,900	\$ 17,800	\$ 16,910
Under/(Over) budget	\$ 2,000	\$ 600	\$ 8,908	\$ 890	\$ -0-

While there has been a decline in the weed population, there will be a need to continue the surveys and some weed treatments. The FY 2010 budget contains funds for only one microscopic algae treatment. However, with the cost of copper used in copper sulfate for algae treatments retreating to more normal levels and with careful management of the budget, we may have enough funds for two treatments during the summer of 2009, if needed.

The town's share of the jointly funded (with the LWPA) FY 2007 ESS Stormwater Action Plan has been included in the Stormwater Authority's 2007 budget. Additional stormwater studies and actual projects may be funded in part from the above FY 2009 and FY 2010 budgets.

LWPA remains committed to achieving the best water quality for our lake. We thank all town officials and the town residents for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,  
Albert F. Collings, President  
Mary Beth Czaja, Vice-President

# LIBRARY

It seems that every year has its defining moment, and for the Library it happened on Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 4:31 p.m. It was at that precise moment when a bolt of lightning, literally from out of the blue, slammed into the roof and exploded through the meeting room wall, leaving an 18” hole of exposed wire mesh, and plaster fragments scattered throughout the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. The wall was significantly bowed, and the recessed lighting, forced through their ballasts from the sheer concussion, hung down, tethered by their wires, still lit!

The experience of such an impact, both heard and felt by staff members, is difficult to describe. Suffice it to say that it was nothing short of terrifying, especially when the smell of smoke began to permeate the Library (apparently a lightning bolt can reach temperatures that approach 30,000 degrees!). It is an understatement to say that we were lucky no one was killed or hurt, and that the building sustained minimal damage. It took several months to fully recover the building. In addition to roof and wall damage, the fire, elevator and burner panels were completely destroyed. We're proud to say that the Library was closed for only 1 day, for the purpose of assessing the damage, and bringing in the necessary professionals who began the arduous task of restoring everything to working order. We are hoping that the old adage, “lightning never strikes twice” will hold true for us!

The Library has been committed for the last decade to developing itself as a culture-based resource. From

collection development to special events and programs, the Library strives to offer cultural experiences and enrichment that otherwise may not be possible for patrons. In addition, the Library provides free or reduced admission passes for both cultural and entertainment venues thanks, in part, to the Friends of the Library and the West Brookfield Historical Commission. Rotating art exhibits are regularly displayed, utilizing our newly installed picture hanging system, located in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor meeting room. It is our objective to facilitate services that reflect the interests and essence of the broader community.

The Trustees of Reservations selected the Library as the permanent home of the Rock House triptych, painted by Ann Hicks. The 3 paintings were unveiled at a reception held during the White Christmas festivities at the Library, which included an exhibit opening of a dozen other works by the artist. It was standing room only as the artist addressed the attendees, thanking the Trustees, Local Arts Council, and various other contributors, who, together, made the endeavor possible. This was the 1<sup>st</sup> exhibit utilizing the newly installed picture hanging system, and it remained on view to the public for 3 months.

Continued efforts were concentrated on the rejuvenation of the exterior property. This year we utilized the balance of the Future Fund (established by the capital fundraising campaign launched during the Charles Merriam 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday Community Celebration in 2006), and hired Dellomo Abatement Services to repair the rotting exterior window frames. Several sills were replaced, flaking lead paint stabilized, and a fresh coat of paint applied, resulting in an instant exterior face-lift.

Likewise, the ramp canopy was put through its inaugural paces considering the unprecedented amount of precipitation received during the past winter and summer. We are happy to report that the canopy functioned fully and accordingly, providing relief from the threat of injury resulting from avalanching ice and/or snow. Again, the Library is most grateful to the Town for their generous support of this successful and necessary resolution.

An apple tree, which sat at the corner of Main and Cottage Streets, was removed due to several factors, not the least of which was the damaging mess created by the fallen apples. In addition, the rotting fruit stained the Library carpets, and ruined the shoes of many unsuspecting passersby. Bees were a considerable annoyance to people who sat on the adjacent patio, as well. In its place, a Heritage River Birch was planted in memory of the late Library benefactor, Winthrop Gay, Sr. The tree planting ceremony was attended by Mr. Gay's family, friends, and Town officials. Library Custodian, Clay Takorian, generously donated his tree removal services, providing a substantial saving to the Town.

Interior library renovations included utilizing Sheriff Guy Glodis' program that connects non-violent, soon to be released inmates with municipal refurbishing projects. The main entrance and stairway, along with the meeting room walls, were completely refurbished, and the various wall colors selected have received rave reviews from our patrons. For the cost of providing supplies and lunch to the inmates, we were able to accomplish these necessary updates for a fraction of the cost.

These and other various projects have revealed a wonderful structure that has been restored to its former

and rightful stateliness. The Library and its grounds have been painstakingly revived so that all may take pride in this truly magnificent building. Restoration and maintenance of an antique building are ongoing, and, therefore, require the commitment and understanding of a supportive community. The constituency must be applauded for supporting the preservation of their Library so that generations to come will have the opportunity to marvel at and enjoy this architectural gem.

Throughout the year, Library Staff worked diligently to deliver the latest and greatest library services and products available. With new technologies constantly being developed, change is inevitable. For the Library to remain relevant, Staff must be constantly aware of updates, upgrades, and possess the skill to trend-spot, all within the confines of a predetermined and finite budget! Grants, gifts, and donations made many of these improvements and progress possible. For instance, the Technology Committee, once again, funded 2 new computers outfitted with the appropriate specifications necessary to efficiently interface with the circulation software. Likewise, CWMARS, who provides this software, incorporated expanded patron benefits on the Public Access Catalog (PAC) to include self-adjusting account parameters for preferred reading lists, PIN modifications, and date due e-mail notices. In the very near future, an added feature will allow patrons to pay overdue fees online.

To capitalize on these upgrades, the Library web site, launched 5 years ago, received its 1<sup>st</sup> major overhaul. Although we were attached to the original web site design, we knew it was time to update the look and “feel” of the links. In addition to the broadened PAC interface,

kids can now register for the Summer Reading Program from our web site – a time-and-effort-saving measure. Please visit the web site ([www.wbrookfieldlibrary.org](http://www.wbrookfieldlibrary.org)), and take a tour of the remodeled site, especially the Friends' and Kids' pages, where you'll find some creative and stylish innovations. For our own perspective, the Library established tracking software to gather statistical information. Much to our surprise, the statistics reveal that the Library web site receives over a thousand visits **per week!** With this information we are encouraged to continue the effort of maintaining this popular online venue.

A new audio book format, Playaway, was introduced last summer. This unique format features a pre-loaded, 2-ounce device that fits in the palm of your hand. What's more, the control panel allows you to bookmark exactly where you leave off, set the speed of the reader, and includes forward and reverse tracking. For those who want to listen in their car, the Library provides an FM converter. The convenience of Playaway makes it one of the most versatile and innovative audio book experiences currently available on the market. Circulation statistics indicate our patrons agree.

Circulation experienced a dramatic increase relative to Interlibrary Loan activity. Loans provided to other libraries grew by 21%. Likewise, our patrons enjoyed over 5,000 items lent by other Libraries from both the Central and Western regions alone. This significant increase indicates that our CWMARS consortium membership is highly beneficial in providing materials to the public. It is also indicative of the efficient service our Staff continues to provide. Such an increase places demands on a Staff that consistently delivers without the advantage of addi-

tional hours or workforce – commendable in terms of both effort and commitment to the job. Indeed!

Library Custodian, Clay Takorian, deserves special recognition for his 1<sup>st</sup> year of outstanding performance relative to building and property maintenance. His generosity toward his community and commitment to his job are exemplified by the various and numerous details he attends to, resulting in the Library functioning more smoothly and efficiently than ever before. By employing his knowledge and talents, Clay proposed real and thorough solutions that saved the Town money while creatively addressing issues head-on, before they escalated to a larger problem. As an enthusiastic self-starter, his expert knowledge, insight, advice, and kind demeanor have had a tremendously positive effect on the Library and its employees. Additionally, his non-maintenance contributions have also been immeasurable, such as the many library events he has digitally recorded, chronicling some very special Library moments for posterity. Clay is a true asset to this Library, and a highly valued addition to the staff.

Many people assisted the Library in delivering exemplary service to the public. The volunteers who selflessly devoted both their time and talents are an inspirational force often found working behind the scenes. The Board of Library Trustees, which met each month to carefully and thoughtfully flesh out the details of Library operations, typifies the commitment of volunteerism. The care and concern Board members exacted in their duties cannot be underestimated, as each of their perspectives yielded a tremendous influence over the success of this institution, and ultimately the satisfaction experienced by its patrons. In an attempt to avoid voting deadlock



caused by an even-member Board, the Trustees sought to create an additional seat for the Board. As a result, they welcomed Michael Carr along with Paul Spencer, who filled a vacant seat. Once again, the Library is enjoying a full complement of Trustees, which now numbers 7 members.

One of the most crucial decisions the Trustees made within the year was to initiate a much discussed and examined plan to deal with safety and security (both loss and prevention) concerns. For several years, the Board has been considering the best approach to address the numerous incidents of theft, and public transgressions experienced by staff and patrons. After several years of consideration, reflection, and professional consultation, Trustees voted to install a security system, which includes cameras to monitor the Children's Library, Non-fiction and meeting rooms, and both the movie and music collections. It is our goal that this security measure will ultimately provide Library patrons and staff with a greater degree of safety, as well as enhance efforts to protect the collection and property.

The Friends of the Library (FOL), and its auxiliary counterpart, the Junior Friends of the Library, streamlined fundraising efforts to maintain a powerful impact without taxing its members unnecessarily. By refocusing its efforts to 2 major events (the annual White Christmas Raffle, and the Book & Bake Sale), the organization was able to maintain the fundraising levels (approximately \$1,500) necessary to provide resources the Library relies upon; namely, passes for free or reduced admission to cultural and entertainment venues, and web site updates. In addition, the FOL also supported special programs, like the American Red Cross' babysitting certification

course, held annually in December free of charge to registrants.

A collaborative endeavor between the F.O.L. and the West Brookfield Elementary School was launched this past spring with the placement of a Got Books donation container at the back entrance of the school, providing the community with an option to dispose of unwanted books (both print and audio) and movies (DVD and video). In turn, each time Got Books empties the receptacle a check is sent to the Friends, who then gives the money to the school for hosting the receptacle. In just 8 months the Friends have presented the school with \$438.00! This successful initiative is a shining example of how collaboration and community outreach can benefit everyone involved.

This year the Friends adopted an emblem to represent the ideals of their organization. They chose the oak leaf motif, found fittingly in a low-relief sculpture over the front entrance of the Library. A Victorian favorite, the oak leaf is symbolic of *“hospitality, stability, strength, honor, eternity, endurance, and liberty”*. You can view a photograph of the relief at the *Friends* page on the Library web site. To summarize the past year, one could say the FOL has turned over a new leaf!

Both Adult and Children’s services utilized volunteers to augment daily services. Volunteer-at-Large, Emma Belling (a.k.a. Lucy) returned for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year of assisting primarily with adult services. Good-natured Doris Carlson, who assisted the Children’s Librarian with activities and crowd control of the 3 – 5 year-old set, once again graced the Story Hour program. Calvin Chase, Linda Cunningham, Elizabeth Farmosa, Gabriela Garlicki, Samantha Gillogly, Jacob Gorham, Cindy and

Jacinda Graham, Caitlyn Kroyman, Bill Leslie, Jolynn Martin, Aaron Morgan, Sheila Nadolski, Margaret O'Brien, Kim Sargent, Dawn Swistak, Rachel Takorian, Valerie Paradise, and Garrett Wrobel all took time out of their busy summer schedules to lend their helping hands with the multifaceted Summer Reading Program (SRP).

Linda Pelletier arrived weekly to pick up and distribute library materials to homebound patrons. Her kind assistance helped connect people with items they might not otherwise be able to obtain. Also, Linda donated her famous cookies for several Library events, which were both cleverly designed and delicious!

Our gratitude is extended to each and every person who gave so generously to this public library. Your contributions, whether large or small, helped us to accomplish some amazing achievements this year. *Please know that your assistance has made much possible, and that the entire staff is **deeply grateful**, and glad to know all of you!*

Grants and donations were received by the Library to help defray expenses not covered by the Library municipal budget. The Local Cultural Council awarded \$1,695 toward Library programming (\$395 for Adult, \$1,300 for Children) along with the following SRP donations from local businesses and organizations: Country Bank for Savings, Family First Bank, North Brookfield Savings Bank, Lamoureux Ford, Salem Cross Inn (gift certificate), Southbridge Savings Bank, Webster Federal Credit Union.

The Boston Museum of Science provided a *Lowell Institute Program Grant*, and the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded the *We the People Created*

*Equal Bookshelf Grant* (consisting of 22 children's books), valued at \$210 and \$400, respectively.

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners presented the Library with a State Aid award of \$6,007, which was contingent upon receiving certification for compliance with meeting/exceeding minimum standards of library operation. Additionally, the Library received a gift of \$7,500 awarded by the Jane and Irving England Trust that was used, in part, to renovate the exterior Library window frames.

A \$2,200 Wing Health Foundation Grant was awarded for the purpose of purchasing an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). This grant was pursued after the staff completed a first aid certification program, which included AED training. Working with Paul Lupacchino, President of the W. Brookfield Rescue Squad, the Library was able to locate a make and model that was compatible with devices in other W. Brookfield municipal locations and cruisers. The Library is very appreciative for the guidance and assistance Paul provided during the successful application process, and indebted to Wing Memorial Hospital for their generosity towards our community and commitment to outreach.

Chronicling the past year within the annual report is always an exercise in revelation. It provides an opportunity to comprise a comprehensive retrospective, detailing both the Library's accomplishments, as well as its services utilized by the greater community. The Value of Public Library Service Tool (*see chart on next page*), developed by the Massachusetts Regional Library Systems and the Legislative Committee of the Massachusetts Library Association, calculates estimated retail values to measure the market worth of services provided by a public library.

**The values in the left-hand column are equal to the number of times patrons utilized services at the West Brookfield Library in Fiscal Year 08.**

*Copyright Massachusetts Library Association (MLA) 2004*

Quantity of Use	Library Services	Retail Value	Value of Services
15,272	Books Borrowed	\$12.50	\$190,900
864	Magazines Borrowed	\$2.00	\$1,728
9,091	Videos Borrowed (e.g., Blockbuster)	\$3.87	\$35,182
1,782	Books on Tape Borrowed	\$9.95	\$17,731
114	Museum Passes Borrowed	\$24.00	\$2,736
520	Magazine Use in Library	\$2.00	\$1,040
4,424	Inter-library Loan	\$25.00	\$110,600
142	Meeting Room Use per Hour	\$50.00	\$7,100
29	Adult Programs Attended	\$15.00	\$435
94	Children's Programs Attended	\$6.00	\$564
2,600	Hours of Computer Use (e.g., Internet and MS Word)	\$12.00	\$31,200
6	Boston Globe Articles Viewed Online	\$1.00	\$6
12	Months of Use for Other Database Searching	\$20.00	\$239
6,500	Reference Questions Asked	\$7.00	\$45,500
<b>* Total Value</b>			<b><u>\$444,961</u></b>

*\* It should be duly noted that the cost of operating the Library was \$171,635*

In this time of economic turbulence the Library shines as one of the community's finest, most affordable resources. At an **annual** cost of \$49.35 (the equivalent of 2 hardcover best sellers!) per resident, it remains a tremendous value. As a cornerstone of democracy, a vital Library is an indicator of a thriving and vibrant commu-

nity, able to offer all the benefits and privileges thereof. Everyday that we have the opportunity to open the Library's doors, we bring democracy to life – a concept that is at once, both reassuring and gratifying.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Careau, Library Director

## LIST OF APPOINTED OFFICIALS

\* Indicates Chairperson. ( ) Indicates Term of Office

### ADVISORY BOARD (7 MEMBERS – 3 YEAR TERMS)

Nicole Allen	(2009)
Al Collings	(2009)
G. Thomas Schnare	(2010)
Diane Vayda	(2010)
Roy Roberts	(2010)
Phil Landine	(2011)
John Tivnan	(2011)

### AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Brad Quigley *	(2009)	
Roger Slobody	(2009)	
Arthur Maskell	(2009)	
Gordon DeWolf	(2009)	
Vacant	(2009)	
Barry Nadon, Sr.	(2009)	Alternate
Vacant	(2009)	Alternate
Vacant	(2009)	Alternate
Lisa Long	(2009)	Alternate

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COORDINATOR**

Johanna Barry (2009)

**ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER/DOG OFFICER**

Leah Shattuck (2009)

**ANIMAL INSPECTOR**

Barry J. Nadon, Sr. (04/30/09)

**ASPARAGUS & FLOWER HERITAGE FESTIVAL**

Roger Allen (2009)

George Hibbard (2009)

Caron Plante (2009)

Richard Rossman (2009)

Amy Dugas (2009)

**ASSISTANT TOWN CLERKS**

Tammi Kemp (2009)

Geraldine Sauve (2009)

Teresa Barrett (2009)

Christine Long (2009)

**ASSISTANT TOWN TREASURER**

Teri Ann Roberts (2009)

**AUCTIONEER (PROPERTY)**

Johanna Barry (2009)

**BOARD OF REGISTRARS**

Anna May Zabek (2009)

Robert Spera (2010)

Roberta Rhodes (2011)

Resigned 8/29/08

Jane R. Dolan (2011)

**BUILDING INSPECTOR**

Jeff Taylor (2009)  
John Couture (2009) Alternate

**BURIAL GROUND COMMISSIONERS**

Kevin Roberts (2009)  
Marjorie Reim (2010)  
John Bartlett (2011)

**CABLE TELEVISION COMMITTEE, LOCAL ACCESS**

Barry Gillogly, Director (2009)

**CENTRAL MASS. REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Tim Morrell (2009)  
Diane Oliver (2009) Alternate

**CMRPC REGIONAL PLANNING TASK FORCE**

C. Thomas O'Donnell (2009)

**CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER**

Johanna Barry (2009)

**COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Gary Simeone (2009)  
Cliff Comptois (2009)  
Richard Walters (2009)  
Madelyn Tivnan (2009)

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION (3 YEAR TERMS – CHP 40, SEC 8C)**

Gordon DeWolf (2009)  
Diane Oliver-Jenson (2009)  
John Hooven (2010)  
Edward Kwasniewski (2010) Resigned 9/26/08



Brian Silva (2011)  
Richard Provencher (2011)  
Jesse Serrano (2011)  
Vacant (2010)

**(COA) WB SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR**

Cynthia Norden, Director (2009)  
Betty Frew, Asst. Director (2009)

**COUNCIL ON AGING**

Connie Pratt (2009)  
Oliver Hill (2009)  
Gloria Hanks (2010)  
Jim Pierce (2010)  
Edward Perry (2010)  
Beverly Cassavant (2011)  
Doris Carlson (2011)

**COUNCIL ON AGING CUSTODIAN**

Justyna Ball (2009)

**COUNCIL ON AGING SMC ELDER BUS**

John J. Murphy (2009)

**COUNCIL ON AGING SMC ELDER BUS BOARD**

Cynthia M. Norden (2010)

**CUSTODIAN OF PROPERTY**

Board of Selectmen (2009)

**CULTURAL GRANTS COUNCIL**

Joan Veinot (2009)  
Kenneth Miller (2009)

Fern Maskell (2009)  
 Kate Kane (2009)  
 Marion Hunt (2009)  
 Richard Ullman (2009)  
 Barry Gillogly (2009)  
 Paula Slade (2009)

**EARTH REMOVAL BOARD**

Bob Lipovsky	(2009)	Planning
Jason Paquette	(2009)	Health
Tom Long	(2009)	Selectmen
Gordon DeWolf	(2009)	Conservation
Richard Aube	(2009)	Zoning

**E-911 COORDINATOR**

Paul Lupacchino (2009)

**ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR**

Kevin Dunivan	(2009)	Alternate
Donald Puduski	(2009)	

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

C. Thomas O'Donnell (2009)

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

Johanna Barry (2010)

**FIRE CHIEF**

Timothy Batchelor (2009)

**FOREST FIRE WARDEN**

Timothy Batchelor (2009)

**GAS PIPING & GAS APPLIANCES/PLUMBING INSPECTOR**

Joseph Ciejka (2009)  
Carl Marco (2009) Alternate

**HARBORMASTER**

Joseph Borlikoski (2009)

**HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATOR**

Walter Ambach (2009)

**HIGHWAY CLERK**

Tammi Kemp (2009)

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

Jason Benoit (2009)

**HISTORICAL COMMISSION (7 MEMBER BOARD)**

Richard Rossman (2009) Rotating 3 year term  
Edwin Dow (2009)  
Barbara Rossman (2010)  
David Fitzgerald (2010)  
William Leslie (2010)  
Nancy Parker (2011)  
Amy Dugas (2011)

**HISTORICAL CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION**

Peggy Walker (2009)

**INSECT & PEST CONTROL INSPECTOR**

Jason Benoit (2009)

**LIBRARY CUSTODIAN**

Clay Takorian (2009)

**LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

Lisa Careau (2009)

**MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE**

Timothy Morrell (2009)

Gordon DeWolf (2009)

Sonia Burke (2009)

**MUSIC COMMITTEE**

Susan LaBarge (2009)

Kevin Dorman (2009)

Kathy Savary (2009)

Leane Pierce (2009)

Dave Pierce (2009)

Tammy Tuttle (2009)

John Tuttle (2009)

David Frazier (2009)

Reed Savary (2009)

Valerie Kozec (2009)

Tina Fitzgerald (2009)

Cheryl Woodman (2009)

Heidi-Jo Kemp (2009)

**OPEN SPACE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**

Vacant (2009) Planning

Vacant (2009) Historical

Vacant (2009) LWPA

Gordon DeWolf (2009) Conservation

**PARKING CLERK**

Teresa Barrett (2009)



**POLICE SPATIAL NEEDS COMMITTEE**

Lindsey Smith (2009)  
Walter Ambach (2009)  
Lester Paquette (2009)  
Bob Benson (2009)  
M.J. Haesche (2009)

**QUABOAG HIGH SCHOOL MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVE**

Barry J. Nadon, Jr. (2009)

**QUABOAG PLANTATION, 350<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY (2010)  
COMMITTEE**

Bill Jankins (2009)  
Ruth Lyon (2009)  
Richard Rossman (2009)  
Rob Lyon (2009)  
Brad Hibbard (2009)  
Merton Kenniston (2009)  
Bev Kenniston (2009)

**QUABOAG VALLEY BUSINESS ASST. CORP REP.**

Vacant (2009)

**RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Paris Gogos (2009)  
John Vayda (2009)  
Teresa Barrett (2009)  
John Schlosstein (2009)

**REPRESENTATIVE TO CENTRAL DISPATCH**

C. Thomas O'Donnell (2009)

**REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ROCK HOUSE**

Barry J. Nadon, Jr. (2009)

**RIGHT TO KNOW MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR**

Walt Ambach (2009)

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT OFFICER**

Teri Ann Roberts (2009)

**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Jason Benoit	(2009)	Highway
James Bernardino	(2009)	Member at Large
John Frizzell	(2009)	Health
Johanna Barry	(2009)	Selectmen
Gordon DeWolf	(2009)	Conservation
Robert Benson	(2009)	Water
Diane Oliver	(2009)	Planning

**SUPERINTENDENT SCREENING COMMITTEE**

Barry J. Nadon, Jr. (2009)

**TOWN ACCOUNTANT**

Marie Arsenault (2010)

**TOWN COUNSEL**

Kopelman & Paige PC (2009)

**TOWN HALL CUSTODIAN**

Keith Bordeau (2009)

**TREE WARDEN**

Jason Benoit (2009)

**VETERAN'S AGENT**

Edwin LaMontagne (2009)

**WAR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE**

Ron Marchessault (2009)

John Murphy (2009)

Anna May Zabek (2009)

Betty Coulthard (2009)

**WHITE CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE**

Madaline Arn (2009)

Richard Rossman (2009)

Charlotte Boos (2009)

Barbara Rossman (2009)

Ursula Couture (2009)

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (APPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE PRIOR TO MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>)**

Joan Veinot (2009)

Richard Aube (2010)

Kevin Dorman (2011)

George Hibbard (2009)

David Veinot (2011)

Associate Member  
(\* 1AM is Chairs choice)  
Associate Member  
(\*1AM's - rotating 2 year term)

**ZONING OFFICER**

Gary Simeone (2009)



# LIST OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

\* Indicates Chairperson. ( ) Indicates Term of Office

## **MODERATOR**

Michael J. Frew (2010)

## **TOWN CLERK**

Sarah J. Allen (2010)

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Barry J. Nadon, Jr. \* (2009)

Tom Long (2010)

David M. Eisenthal (2011)

## **TOWN TREASURER**

Keith R. Arsenault (2010)

## **TAX COLLECTOR**

Teresa M. Barrett (2010)

## **BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

Kevin G. Dorman (2009)

William F. Mansfield (2010)

Peggy J. Walker (2011)

## **BOARD OF HEALTH**

Melvin F. Dorman (2009)

John E. Frizzell, Sr. (2010)

Jason Paquette (2011)

### **BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Lisa Remiszewski	(2009)
Alexandra McNitt	(2009)
Mark A. Jordan *	(2010)
Joanne Bastien	(2010)
Linda Carpenter	(2011)
Michael Carr	(2011)
Paul D. Spencer	(2011)

### **BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**

Lester Paquette, Sr.	(2009)
Robert E. Benson	(2010)
Barry J. Nadon, Sr.	(2011)

### **COMMON COMMITTEE**

Jaclyn Von Bleicken	(2009)
Robert Joseph Richard	(2010)
Teri A. Roberts	(2011)

### **HOUSING AUTHORITY (5 YEAR TERMS)**

Michael J. Frew	(2009)	
Phyllis L. Warriner	(2010)	
Edward Kwasniewski	(2010)	State Appt 5 yr term.
John J. Murphy	(2011)	
Beverly Anderson	(2012)	

### **PLANNING BOARD**

Robert J. Brodak	(2009)
Joyce Diane Oliver	(2010)
Merton E. Kenniston	(2011)
Robert Lipovsky	(2012)
Timothy S. Morrell	(2013)
Vacancy	( )

## **QUABOAG REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

John Dolan	(2009)
Leane M. Pierce	(2009)
Daniel Korzec	(2009)
Donna Goudreau	(2009)
Dolores A. M. Morin	(2010)
David A. O'Neill	(2010)
Louise M. Fecteau	(2010)
Laurie A. Hebert	(2010)
Clifford G. Fountain	(2011)
Thomas C. Baker	(2011)
Lori L. Loughlin	(2011)

## **PLANNING BOARD**

A significant effort of the Planning Board during the year was focused on the Board's first proposed Open Space Residential Development (OSRD) plan, under the recently approved OSRD subdivision law. The subdivision plan was for three lots on Ragged Hill. This subdivision was a good example of what the OSRD regulation was intended to accomplish. A major portion of the acreage of the subdivision was placed in The East Quabbin Land Trust, with three lots left for the developer. The plan was approved in September, after a lengthy public hearing process.

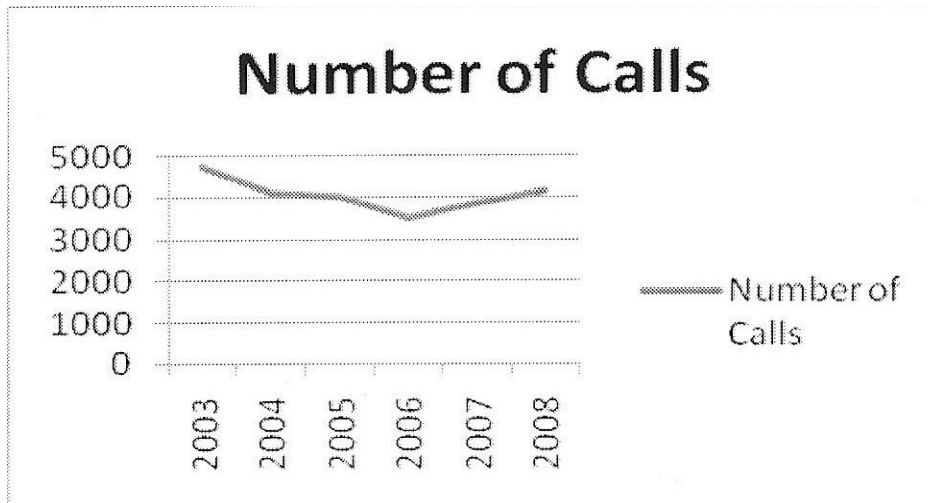
Research and discussion continued during the year on a Wind Turbine Regulation for West Brookfield. A preliminary draft of the regulation was developed using The American Wind Energy Association recommendations and several samples of regulations approved or drafted by other Massachusetts towns. We expect to have a proposed Wind Power Regulation ready for distribution and public hearing early in 2009.

During the year, in addition to the OSRD plan, the Board reviewed a total of six (6) Approval Not Required (ANR) plans which required Board action.

Respectfully submitted,  
Timothy Morrell, Chairman  
Robert Lipovsky  
Robert Brodak  
Merton Kenniston  
Diane Oliver  
Kristin McCarthy, Secretary

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

The year 2008 was a busy one for the West Brookfield Police Department. For the second year in a row, calls for service rose from 3,828 in 2007 to 4,127 in 2008. Correspondingly, we have seen an increase in crimes against persons and properties. One bright spot was public disorder crimes, which fell by 18% in the past year.



*These increases mirror a national trend of increase in violent crime, after several years of decrease.*

2008 was a very busy year in our collaboration with the school system. In addition to conducting lockdown drills, Ptl. Marissa Brown spent a great deal of time instructing on safety related topics. She taught Drug Awareness to the Sixth Grade class, and spoke to the students on several other topics, including bus safety. She and Ptl. Swain also conducted several RAD trainings during the year, which were well attended. We hope to be able to continue offering these programs, despite the drastic cutbacks in the State grants used to fund them.

Working in conjunction with the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission, we continue to make compliance checks of those establishments that serve alcohol. We are happy to report that our last two compliance checks both showed a 100% compliance rate. We are committed to the prevention of underage drinking and the tragedies that can result from it.

This past year marked the passing of retired Sergeant George Burnham. Sgt. Burnham faithfully

served the community for twenty years and was also a veteran of WWII. George will be greatly missed.

Despite the difficulties faced by the department in 2008, the men and women of the West Brookfield Police Department remain committed to the safety and well-being of the citizens of this community. We truly appreciate the support that we continue to receive from you.

The following are examples of calls for service handled by the department in 2008.

911 Hang ups	70	Abandoned MV	4
Alarms	129	Animal calls	120
Assist citizen	211	Assault	10
Assist other agencies	164	Burglary	27
Building check	39	Carbon monoxide alarm	4
Complaint : non-specific	104	Disturbance	51
Disabled vehicle	78	Domestic disturbance	40
Escort	21	Assist Fire Dept.	90
General information	28	Gun shots	11
Hazardous incidents	11	Illegal dumping	5
Investigation: non-specific	43	Juvenile offenses	7
Larceny	25	Lockout	52
Medical emergency	467	Missing persons	15
Motor vehicle accident	129	Complaint: MV operations	62
MV investigation	221	Motor Vehicle stop	908

Notification	9	Officer initiated: non-specific	296
Property damage: vandalism	17	Annoying calls	7
Lost/Found property	11	Psychiatric emergency	11
Records check	10	Repossession	7
Serve restraining order	12	Safety hazard	139
Stolen vehicle	2	Sex offenses	2
Serve summons	57	Suspicious activity	65
Threat	18	Trespass	2
Traffic control	191	Serve warrant	30
Welfare check	81	Unattended death	3

The results of the nine hundred and eight (908) motor vehicle stops conducted by the department in 2008 are as follows:

- 37 criminal complaints
- 223 civil infractions
- 20 arrests
- 315 written warnings
- 306 verbal warnings
- 7 were voided due to procedural mistakes.

During 2008, one hundred thirteen (113) people were charged with crimes and seven (7) were taken into protective custody. The following is a summary of the charges filed.

Assault & Battery	12	Assault & Battery on a Police Officer	2
Assault & Battery with dangerous weapon	2	Burglary	4
Larceny	3	OUI	5
Warrant arrest	14	Threatening	2
Assault	4	Possession of Class D substance	12
Suspended/Revoked license	13	Reckless operation of a vehicle	4
Trespass	3	Leaving the scene of an accident	3
Uninsured vehicle	3	Using MV without authority	1
Abuse Prevention order violation	3	Unlicensed operation	10
Possession of a Class A substance	1	Disorderly conduct	6
Keeping a disorderly house	1	Defrauding an Innkeeper	1
Possession of Alcohol in public	2	Possession of liquor under 21	3
Open container violation	1	Littering from MV	1
Possession of Firearms without FID	2	Failure to stop for Police	2
Operating with revoked registration	2	Contributing to the delinquency of a minor	3
Attaching plates	2	Rape of a child with force	1
Indecent Assault & Battery victim under 14	1	Possession of a dangerous weapon	2
Improper storage of Firearms	1	Open and Gross lewdness	1
Harassment	1	Annoying Calls	2
Disturbing the peace	2	Abandoned MV	2



Respectfully submitted,  
C. Thomas O'Donnell, Jr., Chief of Police

## PUBLIC ACCESS TELEVISION

Local Access (aka, West Brookfield Public Access Television, PEG or WBTV) has made reasonable advances in 2008 for laying an operational foundation. Given budgetary constraints, focus for the year was strictly on Channel 11, the public access channel. The primary advances are:

### **Equipment:**

- 1) Replacement of dated PC and software, thanks to grant assistance by the Technical Committee.
- 2) To bring this computer up to editing standards a 1 Terabit external hard drive was added and Pinnacle editing software was installed.
- 3) Reconfiguring existing equipment for more efficient scheduling and editing.
- 4) Purchase of office printer/scanner/copier for better office logistics.
- 5) Purchase of 300 disc carousel DVD player that works in congress with broadcast programming. Prior system allowed only three shows to be scheduled at a time (that later became only two as one player broke down). The system can now schedule as many programs as

desired/available and do it weeks in advance. The traditional method of programming would have been to purchase a digital video server at a currently prohibitive cost of \$9,000 - \$10,000. Though this 300 disc system is no longer being made, we will likely be able to purchase one more, as a backup. At \$875 each, it is a bargain.

- 6) A high speed disc duplicator was purchased and serves to make safeties of discs submitted for airing. It also is used to duplicate shows for people who wish to purchase a show they have seen on Channel 11.
- 7) A low cost direct to disc printer was purchased as the old paper label system is dangerous for heavy use disc players.
- 8) Audio capture for DV Camera Kit #1 was upgraded to an Audio Technica three wireless microphone with receiver system. This upgrade is a vast improvement to the built-in camera microphone. The kit also now includes a noise canceling headset for accurate audio monitoring.
- 9) A vacuum cleaner and a network router were donated to the studio.

### **Programming:**

- 1) Twelve new shows were taped and aired in 2008.
- 2) Several outside productions were requested for airing.
- 3) Two free long-term series were negotiated and will begin airing in February 2009.
- 4) Additional programming will be added from new state run access portal, actual date still to be determined.
- 5) Reviews of older shows from several years past are being reviewed by volunteers and me for viability. Several have already been selected and are being

converted to DVD for airing. This is our “*Vintage West Brookfield*” series and the first show airs the week of January 25, 2009.

**Volunteers:**

- 1) Outreach for volunteer producers via word-of-mouth and the Channel 11 bulletin board began in late October. These yielded two shows with likelihood of more to come. This Outreach Program will expand in 2009.
- 2) In addition to volunteer producers, we have two general services people who help with tape reviewing and assisting as needed.

**Bulletin Board:**

- 1) WBTV has increased the number of local event bulletins. In addition, as a test for future Underwriters for the station, we have displayed several local businesses on the bulleting board for free. Feedback has shown that either the business owners haven’t tracked how their clients come to them or they have been doing so diligently and report a definite increase in business due to the bulletins. Starting in March or April, all local business bulletins will be converted to Underwriter status, where the businesses will support a particular show or the station in general. Fees will be modest.

**Show Duplication Promotion:**

- 1) Especially as we increase our production, we will further promote the sale of show duplication.

**Additional Notes for 2009:**

- 1) The primary goal for 2009 will be to increase programming of all genres and to encourage local production. This will be accomplished by:
  - a) Further involvement with the Quaboag High School in association with their Media Department. We have already had preliminary discussions on this and they are interested in writing a grant to help develop a teaching/internship program.
  - b) Encourage the West Brookfield Elementary School to tape events or programs.
  - c) Pursue additional free and/or low cost programming from outside the community.
  - d) Promote local residents to become “producers”.
- 2) Additional funding will, hopefully, come from the sale of dated equipment. Permission from the Selectmen for that sale has already been requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barry Gillogly, Chairman

## RESCUE SQUAD

The West Brookfield Rescue Squad responded to over four hundred-twenty **911** calls in 2008, our 56<sup>th</sup> year of services to West Brookfield. Our call volume continues to increase yearly, up 20% in 2008. That is almost a 70% rise from 2005. The majority of calls continue to be for medical emergencies, but the numbers also reflect motor vehicle accidents, assisting the Fire Department at fire scenes, lift assists, and patient refusals.

The Rescue Squad currently has ten (10) active EMTs and three First Responders, all of whom respond on a “volunteer response basis” to pager tones requesting emergency help. Our goal is to provide the town of West Brookfield with 24-hour a day, 7-day a week emergency service. At times, however, when rescue squad members are unavailable, we continue to rely on neighboring towns for mutual aid.

In order to meet the demand for our increasing call volume, the Rescue Squad needs more EMTs. During 2008, an aggressive recruitment program was established. For the first time in our history, the squad was able to provide ten (10) West Brookfield residents participating in the EMT class at Baystate Mary Lane Hospital with an education grant/scholarship. With a dire financial situation facing many, this proved to be instrumental in a high level of participation from our town. In return for the Rescue Squad’s dedication to the community, class members make a commitment of service to the squad.

The EMT class concluded in mid-February 2009, and we anticipate all ten (10) graduates will join the squad and be ready to go on rescue squad runs by mid-May. The success of this program was due in part to the commitment of the Community Outreach Department at Baystate Mary Lane Hospital, which is working to help surrounding emergency services with their need for additional staff. However, contributions received in memory of Mary “Betty” Coulthard also played a huge part. The Coulthard family’s wish was to have the contributions put towards training more West Brookfield residents to become EMTs. We extend our gratitude to Betty’s family, and all who made contributions in Betty’s name, for this success. With more EMTs on our squad,

we plan to start transitioning from an “on-call volunteer response system” to a “scheduled paid on-call shift system,” responding from home, committed to availability for calls during that shift, with 24-hour coverage. This will ensure a West Brookfield Rescue Squad EMT will respond to every 911 call.

There is another EMT class scheduled to start September 1, 2009, at Baystate Mary Lane Hospital. Participants who complete the course and join the West Brookfield Rescue Squad will be reimbursed the tuition fee after the successful completion of a membership application and pre-employment physical, and a probationary period of active service.

The West Brookfield Rescue Squad welcomes new members. Anyone interested in joining can contact President Paul Lupacchino **(508-867-3742)** or any other squad member for information.

West Brookfield Rescue Squad continues to be committed to giving back to the community. First Responder and CPR training is provided free of charge to various town departments, as needed, and offered to the public throughout the year, time permitting. In 2008, the Rescue Squad donated this training to West Brookfield Residents in January. A defibrillator (AED) and storage cabinet was donated to the Town Hall and we assisted the Library in obtaining a donated defibrillator. The Rescue Squad had made the commitment to maintain the defibrillators in the following locations: the school, Senior Center, Library, and the Town Hall, all free of charge to the community. For the Squad’s efforts, the American Heart Association and the Office of Emergency Medical Services awarded and designated the Town of West Brookfield as a Heart Safe Community.

The cost of operating the Rescue Squad continues to rise, not only with the above mentioned community services provided, but a large anticipated expense is, in the near future, a replacement ambulance. This expense has an anticipated cost of today's price tag of nearly \$180,000.00. This expenditure will be needed very soon as the current Ambulance is ten (10) years old. All of the Rescue Squad's expenses are covered by utilizing the monies collected from Insurance Company Reimbursements for services, the Annual Subscription Drive, as well as the Memorial and general contributions given generously throughout the year. Our services continue to be offered to the Town of West Brookfield for "ZERO" tax dollars, and without your continued generosity, it would be very difficult to continue this service.

Please remember the West Brookfield Rescue Squad is a State licensed "EMERGENCY TRANSPORT" ambulance. We are unable to provide transportation to the hospital for non-emergency evaluations, treatments or appointments under our State license.

**Please call 911, the EMERGENCY ONLY number, when a LIFE THREATENING OR MEDICAL EMERGENCY ARISES.**

*We would like to thank the residents of West Brookfield for their continued support of our efforts. We appreciate the continued financial support through the Subscription Drive, Memorial Contributions, and other generous donations throughout the years. And, as always, we would like to thank our families, the Police, Fire, Highway, and Central Dispatch for their help and support, when needed.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Board of Directors, West Brookfield Rescue Squad

# **RIGHT-TO-KNOW COORDINATOR**

During the year 2008, there were no requests made under the Right-To-Know laws.

Respectfully submitted,  
Walter Ambach, Right-To-Know Coordinator





# TOWN CLERK REPORT 2008

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

## WARRANT FOR PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of West Brookfield

### GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in Elections to vote at

PRECINCT 0

POLLING LOCATION 1

SENIOR CENTER, 73 CENTRAL STREET

On **TUESDAY, THE FIFTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2008**, from 7:00 A. M. to 8:00 P. M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Presidential Primary for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE.....FOR THE COMMONWEALTH  
STATE COMMITTEE MAN.....Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire &  
Franklin District  
STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN....Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire &  
Franklin District  
TOWN COMMITTEE.....TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD

Hereto fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_ A true copy attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sarah J. Allen, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
Constable

\_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM  
Selectmen of West Brookfield Date

POSTED IN THE FRONT LOBBY OF THE TOWN HALL

**PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY 1  
FEBRUARY 5, 2008**

**DEMOCRATIC ELECTION**

**PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE (VOTE FOR ONE)**

JOHN R. EDWARDS	12
HILLARY CLINTON	374
JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.	1
CHRISTOPHER J. DODD	2
MIKE GRAVEL	1
BARACK OBAMA	237
DENNIS J. KUCINICH	1
BILL RICHARDSON	1
NO PREFERENCE	2
BLANKS	6
WRITE INS	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>639</b>

**STATE COMMITTEE MAN (VOTE FOR ONE)**

WILLIAM R. SHEMETH, III	398
BLANKS	241
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>639</b>

**STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN (VOTE FOR ONE)**

LAURA LEAH JETTE	402
BLANKS	237
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>639</b>

**TOWN COMMITTEE (VOTE FOR THIRTY-FIVE)**

KATHARINE G. SNYDER	278
WILLIAM R. DOLAN	263
JANE R. DOLAN	268
DAVID M. EISENTHAL	253
ROBERT SPERA	233
MICHAEL H. FREW	317
BETTY J. FREW	310
MADELYN R. TIVNAN	283
JOHN V. TIVNAN	285
RICHARD D. GOBI	318
ROBERT B. CALCHERA	260
THOMAS LONG	295
CHRISTINE LONG	290
LORI J. GOBI	326
BLANKS	18,356
WRITE INS	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,365</b>

**REPUBLICAN ELECTION**

**PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE (VOTE FOR ONE)**

JOHN MCCAIN	153
FRED THOMPSON	4
TOM TANCREDO	0
DUNCAN HUNTER	0
MIKE HACKABEE	25
MITT ROMNEY	165
RON PAUL	38
RUDY GIULIANI	2
NO PREFERENCE	3
BLANKS	2
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>392</b>

**STATE COMMITTEE MAN (VOTE FOR ONE)**

WILLIAM L. BROWN, JR.	215
BLANKS	176
WRITE INS	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>392</b>

**STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN (VOTE FOR ONE)**

BLANKS	329
WRITE INS	63
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>392</b>

**TOWN COMMITTEE (VOTE FOR TEN)**

BLANKS	3,911
WRITE INS	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,920</b>

**GREEN RAINBOW ELECTION**

**PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE (VOTE FOR ONE)**

JARED BALL	0
RALPH NADER	1
ELAINE BROWN	0
KAT SWIFT	0
CYNTHIA MCKINNEY	1
KENT MESPLAY	0
NO PREFERENCE	0
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>

**STATE COMMITTEE MAN (VOTE FOR ONE)**

BLANKS	2
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>

**STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN (VOTE FOR ONE)**

BLANKS	2
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>

**TOWN COMMITTEE (VOTE FOR TEN)**

BLANKS	20
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>

## WORKING FAMILIES ELECTION

<b>PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
NO PREFERENCE	0
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>STATE COMMITTEE MAN (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOWN COMMITTEE (VOTE FOR TEN)</b>	
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>
TOTAL REGISTERED REPUBLICANS	381
DEMOCRATS	582
WORKING FAMILIES	4
GREEN RAINBOW	4
UNENROLLED	1,476
<b>TOTAL REGISTERED VOTERS</b>	<b>2,461</b>

**Annual Town Meeting  
Warrant  
and the  
Advisory Committee  
Report**

ELECTION - Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
West Brookfield Senior Center

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.  
West Brookfield Elementary School

---

PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT TO THE ANNUAL  
TOWN MEETING FOR YOUR PERSONAL REFERENCE.

## West Brookfield Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee members are appointed by the Selectmen for three year overlapping terms and we are charged with reviewing and making recommendations on all articles that appear in any warrant presented to the voters of West Brookfield. In calendar year 2007, we met fifteen times at an average of nearly two hours per meeting to fulfill our responsibilities. Agendas for all of our meetings are now posted on TVWB and on the WB web page.

During 2007, committee members Bill King and Richard Pluta elected to step down. We will miss them in our deliberations, but are fortunate to welcome Roy Roberts and Phil Landine who bring a diversity of knowledge of our town and a variety of business experiences to our discussions.

As we looked at the fiscal year 2009 financial requests to support West Brookfield operational services, there are some clouds on the horizon. The national and state economies are expected to recede, but general inflation is expected to remain in the two to three percent range. However, higher energy, utility and health care costs, and the constant need for maintaining our plant, equipment, and roads as well as the need to solve our police and fire space needs all put pressure on our limited resources. Our new governor has stated his intent to increase the state's financial aid to support local services. However, it appears that West Brookfield's share of the pie will be less than expected at least for fiscal year 2009.

To meet the challenge of slower growth in town revenues, we asked all departments, boards and commissions to submit total fiscal year 2009 budgets, excluding capital and debt expense, at a rate of increase no higher than 5% of the fiscal year 2008 budget. At the time of the writing of this report, total salary, operating and recurring expense for town department submissions fell within that increase limit. However, our projected revenues are nearly level to last year and our share of the Quaboag School district foundation budget increased by 8% requiring the Advisory Committee to propose reductions in the requested expense and salary budgets of town departments. Next year does not look any better. Given that we are constrained by the two and one-half percent limit on the tax levy and that the level of state aid cannot be assured, we are going to have to tighten our belts more and look at increases in total budgets in the zero to three percent range.

During this last year, we again reviewed the capital spending requirements for the next several years and were provided with the following estimates:



Police Department Facilities	\$2,000,000
Fire Department expansion	700,000
Fire Department furnace replacement	5,000
WB Elementary School roof and other	700,000
Quaboag Middle/High School	Under review
Highway road maintenance	2,000,000
Town Hall boiler	Unknown
Vehicle replacements	930,000
Water Department pipe and filters	160,000

Voters will be asked to fund some of these expenditures at the 2008 town meetings and some will be postponed to future years. We are also looking into grants and other resources to fund some of these items.

Our continuing updated vehicle purchase analysis for the next five years shared with voters at the town meetings has proven to be a useful tool. After discussions with department managers, we have deferred for two years a decision to purchase a new fire truck and considered less expensive options for replacing police and fire vehicles.

With all of our financial needs and limited resources, we are going to have to carefully manage our budget priorities over the next several years.

Respectfully submitted,

Albert Collings, Chairman

Beverly Potvin/Kenniston

Jeffery Belanger

Roy Roberts

Peter Day

Tom Schnare

Phil Landine

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Town of West Brookfield  
\*\*\*\*\*Annual Town Meeting\*\*\*\*\***

Worcester, SS.

To Either of the Constables of the Town of West Brookfield in the County of Worcester, Greetings.

In the NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the WEST BROOKFIELD SENIOR CENTER on 73 Central Street in said WEST BROOKFIELD ON TUESDAY, the SIXTH day of MAY 2008 at 8:00 AM until 8:00 PM, then and there to elect by ballot the following Town Officers in article #1, and at the

WEST BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL in said WEST BROOKFIELD on TUESDAY the THIRTEENTH day of MAY 2008 at 7:00 PM, then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1

To bring in their votes for one (1) Selectman for 3 years, one (1) Assessor for 3 years, one (1) Board of Health Member for 3 years, three (3) Library Trustees for 3 years, one (1) Water Commissioner for 3 years, one (1) Common Committee Member for 3 years, one (1) Common Committee Member for 2 years, one (1) Planning Board Member for 5 years, two (2) Quaboag Regional School Committee Members for 3 years, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by Town Clerk)**

Article 2

To hear and act upon the Annual Reports of the Town Officers and Committees, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Town Clerk)**

**(Advisory Committee recommends approval.)**

Article 3

To see if the Town will vote to determine the compensation to be paid to the following elected Town Officers:

	FY'08	FY'09
	Recommended	
Moderator	\$150.00	\$150.00
Selectmen, each member	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
Selectmen, Chairman	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Town Treasurer	\$25,827.00	\$26,602.00
Tax Collector	\$29,075.87	\$29,948.15
Assessors, two members	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Assessors, Clerk	\$44,572.86	\$47,422.67
Board of Health, two members	\$800.00	\$800.00
Board of Health, Chairman	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Town Clerk	\$24,103.03	\$24,826.40
Water Commissioners	\$350.00 each	\$350.00 each

or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Advisory Board)**

**(Advisory Committee recommends approval.)**

Article 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, such sums of money as listed in the Advisory

Committee Report and as amended as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year 2008- 2009, and to vote that any State reimbursements which result in available funds to the Quaboag Regional School District, in excess of the approved budget, shall be used to reduce the Town's assessment, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Advisory Committee)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommendation pending.)**

#### Article 5

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Overlay Surplus the sum of \$25,000.00 to be placed in the Reserve Fund to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 6 of the General Laws known as the Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Advisory Committee)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommends approval.)**

#### Article 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury a sum of money to pay principal and interest payments owed on bonds for the West Brookfield Elementary School, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Town Treasurer)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommends approval.)**

#### Article 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury a sum of money to pay West Brookfield's share of the principal and interest payments owed on bonds for the Quaboag Regional Middle/High School, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Town Treasurer)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommends approval.)**

#### Article 8

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53E ½ to authorize the use of a revolving fund to pay cemetery related expenses which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Burial Grounds Commission fees, such expenditures not to exceed \$16,000.00 in fiscal year 2008/2009, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Burial Grounds Commission)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommends approval.)**

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to authorize the use of a revolving fund to pay Police Officer Detail Expenses, which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Details fees, such expenditures not to exceed \$25,000.00 in fiscal year 2008/2009, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Police Department)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommends approval.)**

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to authorize the Stormwater Authority use of a revolving fund, which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Stormwater Authority fees, such expenditures not to exceed \$25,000.00 in fiscal year 2008/2009, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Stormwater Authority)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommends approval.)**

Article 11

To see if the Town will Transfer from the Water Surplus Account the sum of \$30,000.00 to be placed in the FY 2008 Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Water Commissioners)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommends approval.)**

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Water Commissioners to employ their Licensed Water Commissioners at Grade 1 Step 1 (\$9.99 per hour) for standby duty and emergency work in the absence of the Superintendent in Fiscal Year 2008/2009, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Water Department)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommends approval.)**

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to Transfer from available funds in the Treasury a sum of money to be used to replace the rubber roofs on the West Brookfield Elementary School, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommendation pending.)**

Article 14

To see if the Town will vote to Transfer the sum of \$15,779.00 from the Water Surplus Account to be placed in the Water Department Expense Account to

pay for services rendered for the replacement of media in all four filters, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Water Department)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommends approval.)**

Article 15

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer with approval of the Board of Selectmen to appropriate by borrowing the sum of \$200,000.00 to replace the Long Hill River Crossing Pipe and to pay all necessary legal and borrowing costs associated with the project as authorized under the provisions of M.G.L. and to allow the Town to accept any Grant Money or to borrow from the USDA, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Water Department)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommends approval.)**

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$13,800.00 to purchase books for the Quaboag Regional School District, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the QRMHS)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommendation pending.)**

AND you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies at the BULLETIN BOARD in the front entrance way of the TOWN HALL, in said Town, FOURTEEN (14) days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doing thereon, to the Town Clerk, the time and place of meetings, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand eight.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ A TRUE COPY. ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Selectmen of West Brookfield

\_\_\_\_\_  
Constable

Worcester, SS

March \_\_\_\_\_, 2008 AM PM

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD by posting an attested copy of the same on the Bulletin Board in the front entrance of the WEST BROOKFIELD TOWN HALL fourteen (14) days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Constable of WEST BROOKFIELD

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION  
MAY 6, 2008**

**SELECTMAN**

<u>3 YEARS</u>	<u>VOTE FOR ONE</u>
DAVID M. EISENTHAL	400
DIANE S. VAYDA	219
WRITE IN	0
BLANKS	2
	621

**BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

<u>3 YEARS</u>	<u>VOTE FOR ONE</u>
*PEGGY J. WALKER	533
WRITE IN	4
BLANKS	84
	621

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

<u>3 YEARS</u>	<u>VOTE FOR ONE</u>
*JASON L. PAQUETTE	512
WRITE IN	2
BLANKS	107
	621

**WATER COMMISSIONER**

<u>3 YEARS</u>	<u>VOTE FOR ONE</u>
*BARRY J. NADON, SR.	491
WRITE IN	6
BLANKS	124
	621

**LIBRARY TRUSTEE**

<u>3 YEARS</u>	<u>VOTE FOR THREE</u>
----------------	-----------------------

<b>*LINDA J. CARPENTER</b>	<b>471</b>
<b>MICHAEL A. CARR</b>	<b>399</b>
<b>PAUL D. SPENCER</b>	<b>380</b>
<b>WRITE IN</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>BLANKS</b>	<b>611</b>
	<hr/>
	<b>1,863</b>

**COMMON COMMITTEE**

3 YEARS VOTE FOR ONE

<b>TERI A. ROBERTS</b>	<b>487</b>
<b>WRITE IN</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>BLANKS</b>	<b>131</b>
	<hr/>
	<b>621</b>

**COMMON COMMITTEE**

2 YEARS VOTE FOR ONE

<b>ROBERT JOSEPH RICHARD</b>	<b>484</b>
<b>WRITE IN</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>BLANKS</b>	<b>136</b>
	<hr/>
	<b>621</b>

**PLANNING BOARD**

5 YEARS VOTE FOR ONE

<b>*TIMOTHY S. MORRELL</b>	<b>480</b>
<b>WRITE IN</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>BLANKS</b>	<b>141</b>
	<hr/>
	<b>621</b>

**QUABOAG REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL  
COMMITTEE**

3 YEARS YOU MAY VOTE FOR ANY FOUR CANDIDATES

<b>MEMBERS FROM THE TOWN OF WARREN</b>	
<b>CLIFFORD G. FOUNTAIN</b>	<b>362</b>

<b>MEMBERS FROM THE TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD</b>	
<b>THOMAS C. BAKER III</b>	<b>479</b>
<b>LORI L. LOUGHLIN</b>	<b>442</b>

<b>WRITE IN</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>BLANKS</b>	<b>1,159</b>
	<hr/>
	<b>2,484</b>

The Polls closed at 8:00 PM.

**TOTAL ACTIVE VOTERS 2,159**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
MAY 13, 2008**

Poll workers: Laurie Sokol, Betty Frew, Robert Spera, Joanne Bastien, Christine Long.

86 voters attended the meeting.

Voted unanimously to allow the following non-voters to speak:

Kathleen Connolly	Town Counsel
Johanna Barry	Executive Secretary
Dr. Ted Malvey	QRSD Acting Superintendent
Joseph Scanlon	QRSD Director of Finance & Operations
Jennifer Simanski	WBES Principal

Voted unanimously to allow the following non-voters to sit with the Board of Selectmen:

Kathleen Connolly	Town Counsel
Johanna Barry	Executive Secretary

Article 1

THE ELECTION.

Article 2

Voted to hear and act upon the Annual Reports of the Town Officers and Committees.

Article 3

Voted the following compensation to be paid to the following elected Town Officers:

	FY'09
Moderator	\$150.00
Selectmen, each member	\$1,800.00
Selectmen, Chairman	\$2,000.00
Town Treasurer	\$26,602.00
Tax Collector	\$29,948.15
Assessors, two members	\$1,200.00
Assessors, Clerk	\$47,422.67
Board of Health, two members	\$800.00
Board of Health, Chairman	\$1,000.00
Town Clerk	\$24,826.40



Water Commissioners

\$350.00 each

Article 4

A hold was placed on the salary for the Highway Superintendent and the following motion was made:

I move the Town reduce the recommended salary of the Highway Superintendent to the same level as FY 2008. Advisory Board Did Not Recommend Approval. Motion carried. Voted standing vote of 52 yes and 32 no to **Amend Article 4 as written in the Warrant by:** I move the Town Vote to amend the Operational Budget by reducing the Quaboag Regional School District Budget **\$15,096.00** down to Foundation & Transportation; being \$2,386,709.00 and therefore raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,440,159.12** and transfer from free cash the sum of **\$22,861.03** and transfer from the Overlay Surplus Account the sum of **\$25,000.00** and transfer from the Road Reconstruction Account the sum of **\$12,000.00** such sums of money as listed in the Advisory Committee Report and as amended as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year 2008-2009, and to vote that any State reimbursements which result in available funds to the Quaboag Regional School District, in excess of the approved budget, shall be used to reduce the Town's assessment. (Total \$5,500,020.15) **Advisory Board Recommends the Amendment.**

Article 5

Voted to transfer from Overlay Surplus the sum of **\$25,000.00** to be placed in the Reserve Fund.

Article 6

Voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$79,598.000** to pay principal and interest payments owed on bonds for the West Brookfield Elementary School.

Article 7

Voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$212,078.00** to pay West Brookfield's share of the principal and interest payments owed on bonds for the Quaboag Regional Middle/High School.

Article 8

Voted unanimously pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53E ½ to authorize the use of a revolving fund to pay cemetery related expenses which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Burial Grounds Commission fees, such expenditures not to exceed \$16,000.00 in fiscal year 2008/2009.

Article 9

Voted unanimously pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to authorize the use of a revolving fund to pay Police Officer Detail Expenses, which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Details fees, such expenditures not to exceed \$25,000.00 in fiscal year 2008/2009.

Article 10

Voted unanimously pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to authorize the Stormwater Authority use of a revolving fund, which fund shall be credited with receipts from various Stormwater Authority fees, such expenditures not to exceed \$25,000.00 in fiscal year 2008/2009.

Article 11

Voted unanimously to transfer from the Water Surplus Account the sum of **\$30,000.00** to be placed in the FY 2008 Reserve Fund.

Article 12

Voted unanimously to authorize the Water Commissioners to employ their Licensed Water Commissioners at Grade 1 Step 1 (**\$9.99** per hour) for standby duty and emergency work in the absence of the Superintendent in Fiscal Year 2008/2009.

**A 2/3 vote is required to pass Article 13. A motion was made and second to dispense with the required secret ballot. The vote: unanimous approval**

Article 13

Voted to transfer from the stabilization account the sum of **\$300,000.00** to be placed in the West Brookfield Elementary School Rubber Roof Account. Advisory Board Recommends Approval.

Article 14

Voted unanimously to transfer the sum of **\$15,779.00** from the Water Surplus Account to be placed in the Water Department Expense Account.

Article 15

Voted to borrow the sum of **\$200,000.00** to replace the Long Hill River Crossing Pipe.

Article 16

Voted a standing count of 52 yes and 32 no to Passover Article #16. Advisory Board Recommends Approval.

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**Town of West Brookfield**  
**\*\*\*\*Special Town Meeting\*\*\*\***

Worcester, SS.

To Either of the Constables of the Town of West Brookfield in the County of Worcester, Greetings:

In the **NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the **WEST BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 89 NORTH MAIN STREET** in said **WEST BROOKFIELD** on **THURSDAY** the **SEVENTH** day of **AUGUST 2008**, at **7:00PM** then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$15,096.00**, as the balance of the Town's assessment for the FY 2009 budget of the Quaboag Regional School District and to supplement the appropriation for the District under Article 4 of the May 13, 2008 Annual Town Meeting warrant, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the School District)**  
**(Advisory Committee Recommendation Pending)**

Article 2

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$13,801.00** to purchase textbooks for the Quaboag Regional School District, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Petitionary Article)**  
**(Advisory Committee recommendation pending.)**

AND you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies at the **BULLETIN BOARD** in the front entrance way of the **TOWN HALL**, in said Town, **FOURTEEN (14)** days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doing thereon, to the Town Clerk, the time and place of meetings, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand eight.

---

\_\_\_\_\_ A TRUE COPY. ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Selectmen of West Brookfield

\_\_\_\_\_  
Constable

Worcester, SS

June \_\_\_\_\_, 2008 AM PM

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD by posting an attested copy of the same on the Bulletin Board in the front entrance of the WEST BROOKFIELD TOWN HALL fourteen (14) days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Constable of WEST BROOKFIELD

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
AUGUST 7, 2008**

Poll workers: Robert Spera, Joanne Bastien, Betty Frew & Christine Long.  
70 Registered voters in attendance.

Voted unanimously to allow the following non-voters to speak:

Kathleen Connolly	Town Counsel
Johanna Barry	Executive Secretary
Dr. Ted Malvey	QRSD Acting Superintendent
Joseph Scanlon	QRSD Director of Finance & Operations
Jennifer Simanski	WBES Principal

Voted unanimously to allow the following non-voters to sit with the Board of Selectmen:

Kathleen Connolly	Town Counsel
Johanna Barry	Executive Secretary

Article 1

Voted to transfer from free cash the sum of **\$15,096.00** as the balance of the Town's assessment for the FY 2009 budget of the Quaboag Regional School District and to supplement the Appropriation for the District under Article 4 of the May 13, 2008 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Article 2

Voted to transfer from free cash the sum of **\$13,801.00** to be placed in the Quaboag Regional School District Textbook Account.

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN**  
**SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**

**WARRANT FOR STATE PRIMARY**

**SS. Worcester**

To either of the Constables of the Town of West Brookfield

**GREETING:**

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in Elections to vote at

PRECINCT 0

POLLING LOCATION 1

SENIOR CENTER, 73 CENTRAL STREET

on **TUESDAY, THE SIXTEENTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2008**, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Primary for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

SENATOR IN CONGRESS.....FOR THE COMMONWEALTH  
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS.....FIRST DISTRICT  
COUNCILLOR.....SEVENTH DISTRICT  
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT.....WORCESTER, HAMPDEN,  
HAMPSHIRE & FRANKLIN DISTRICT  
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT...5<sup>TH</sup> WORCESTER DISTRICT  
REGISTER OF PROBATE.....WORCESTER COUNTY

Hereto fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_ A true copy attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sarah J. Allen, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ Constable \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM  
Selectmen of West Brookfield Date \_\_\_\_\_

POSTED IN THE FRONT LOBBY OF THE TOWN HALL

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Town of West Brookfield  
\*\*\*\*Special Town Meeting\*\*\*\***

Worcester, SS.

To Either of the Constables of the Town of West Brookfield in the County of Worcester, Greetings:

In the **NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the **WEST BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 89 NORTH MAIN STREET** in said **WEST BROOKFIELD** on **TUESDAY** the **TWENTY FIRST** day of **OCTOBER 2008**, at **7:00PM** then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$5,000.00** for Tax Title expenses, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Town Treasurer)**

Article 2

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$5,000.00** for GASB45 Post Employee Benefits, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Treasurer)**

Article 3

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$615.32** from the Water Surplus Account to the Water Department Salaries Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Water Department)**

Article 4

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$4,500.00** to complete a Revaluation, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Board of Assessors)**

Article 5

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$10,000.00** to be used as matching funds for the recently received Federal 319 Grant; which will address stormwater issues on Wickaboag Valley Road, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Stormwater Authority)**

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$179,507.00**, to be used in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 90, such sums of money to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Highway Department)**

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **a sum of money** to be placed in the “Repairs To Private Ways Account” to pay for repairs to private ways within West Brookfield pursuant to M.G.L. Ch 40 S 6N, the repairs to include road materials and related labor expenses only, and further, that all repairs made to private ways will be completed in strict adherence to all applicable state laws and West Brookfield bylaws, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by Board of Selectmen)**

Article 8

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury **a sum of money** to be placed into the “Town Road Maintenance Account”, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Highway Department)**

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **a sum of money** to be placed in the “Road Reconstruction Account”, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Highway Department)**

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury **a sum of money** to be placed into the “Town Building Maintenance Account”, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)**

Article 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$15,000.00** to replace the existing pump at the Town fuel tank, with a controlled access/monitored pump, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Police Department)**

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$7,500.00** to purchase five (5) sets of turn out gear, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Fire Department)**

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept, on behalf of the Town, the real property shown on Assessor’s Map 53, Block 85, located on 20 White Birch Drive, consisting of approximately .24 acres, as a gift from Susan W. Gagne, said land to be used for general municipal purposes, or to do anything in relation thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)**

Article 14

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$5,000.00** to be used for activities in West Brookfield for the 350<sup>th</sup>



Anniversary of the Quaboag Plantation in 2010, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)**

Article 15

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 4.1 of the Zoning Bylaw (Dimensional Requirements – Basic Requirements) by adding the following phrase to the end of the sentence: “and except as provided in Section 9 of the Open Space Residential Bylaw.”, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Selectmen)**

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$75,000.00** to be placed in the Reserve Fund to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 6 of the General Laws known as the Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Advisory Committee)**

Article 17

To see if the Town will vote to establish a new “Fire Truck Stabilization Account” per MGL C40 s5(b), or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Selectmen)**

Article 18

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$275,000.00** from the “Fleet Capital Account” to the “Fire Truck Stabilization Account”, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Selectmen)**

Article 19

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of **\$50,000.00** to be deposited into the “Fleet Capital Account”, or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Selectmen)**

Article 20

To see if the Town will vote to use the balance of the “Fleet Capital Account” as follows:

**\$ 30,564.00** for the purchase of a truck for the Fire Department

**\$ 24,836.00** for the purchase of a replacement police cruiser for the Police Department

**\$110,000.00** for the purchase of a backhoe for the Highway Department

\$ 72,405.00 towards the purchase of a sidewalk plow for the Highway Department; to be further funded at a later date.

**\$237,805.00            TOTAL**

or take any other action relative thereto.

**(Sponsored by the Selectmen)**

AND you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies at the BULLETIN BOARD in the front entrance way of the TOWN HALL, in said Town, FOURTEEN (14) days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doing thereon, to the Town Clerk, the time and place of meetings, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand eight.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ A TRUE COPY. ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Selectmen of West Brookfield

\_\_\_\_\_  
Constable

Worcester, SS                      October \_\_\_\_\_, 2008 AM PM

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD by posting an attested copy of the same on the Bulletin Board in the front entrance of the WEST BROOKFIELD TOWN HALL fourteen (14) days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Constable of WEST BROOKFIELD

**STATE PRIMARY  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2008**

**REPUBLICAN ELECTION**

**SENATOR IN CONGRESS (VOTE FOR ONE)**

JEFFREY K. BEATTY	38
BLANKS	3
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41</b>

**REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS (VOTE FOR ONE)**

NATHAN A. BECH	37
BLANKS	4
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41</b>

**COUNCILLOR (VOTE FOR ONE)**

BLANKS	35
WRITE INS	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41</b>

**SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT (VOTE FOR ONE)**

BLANKS	32
WRITE INS	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41</b>

**REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT (VOTE FOR ONE)**

STEPHEN J. COMTOIS, II	38
BLANKS	3
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41</b>

**REGISTER OF PROBATE (VOTE FOR ONE)**

BLANKS	32
WRITE INS	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41</b>

**GREEN RAINBOW ELECTION**

**SENATOR IN CONGRESS (VOTE FOR ONE)**

BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>0</u>

<b>COUNCILLOR (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>0</u>

<b>SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>0</u>

<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>0</u>

<b>REGISTER OF PROBATE (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>0</u>

**DEMOCRATIC ELECTION**

<b>SENATOR IN CONGRESS (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
JOHN F. KERRY	162
EDWARD J. O'REILLY	92
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>254</u>

<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
JOHN W. OLVER	174
ROBERT A. FEUER	63
BLANKS	17
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>254</u>

<b>COUNCILLOR (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
THOMAS J. FOLEY	190
BLANKS	64
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>254</b>

<b>SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
STEPHEN M. BREWER	228
BLANKS	25
WRITE INS	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>254</b>

<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
ANNE M. GOBI	224
BLANKS	29
WRITE INS	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>254</b>

<b>REGISTER OF PROBATE (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
STEPHEN G. ABRAHAM	189
BLANKS	65
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>254</b>

**WORKING FAMILIES ELECTION**

<b>SENATOR IN CONGRESS (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>COUNCILLOR (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
BLANKS	0

WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>

**REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT (VOTE FOR ONE)**

BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>

**REGISTER OF PROBATE (VOTE FOR ONE)**

BLANKS	0
WRITE INS	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
OCTOBER 21, 2008**

A motion was made and second to allow the following non-voters to sit with the Board of Selectmen:

Jeffrey Honing	Town Counsel
Johanna Barry	Executive Secretary

The vote: **Motion Carried**

A motion was made and second to allow the following non-voters to speak:

Jeffrey Honing	Town Counsel
Johanna Barry	Executive Secretary
Tim Batchelor	Fire Chief
Jason Benoit	Highway Super.
James Bernardino	PE

The vote: **Motion Carried**

Article 1.

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$5,000.00 for Tax Title expenses.

Article 2.

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$5,000.00 for GASB45 Post Employee Benefits.

Article 3.

Voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$615.32 from the Water Surplus

Account to the Water Department Salaries Account.

Article 4.

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$4,500.00 to complete a Revaluation.

Article 5.

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$10,000.00 to be used as matching funds for the recently received Federal 319 Grant; which will address stormwater issues on Wickaboag Valley Road.

Article 7.

Voted majority to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$10,000.00 to be placed in the "Repairs to Private Ways Account".

Article 8.

Voted majority to Passover this Article.

Article 9.

Voted majority to Passover this Article.

Article 10.

Voted majority to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$38,000.00 to be placed in the "Town Building Maintenance Account"

Article 11.

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$15,000.00 to replace the existing pump at the Town fuel tank.

Article 12.

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$7,500.00 to purchase five sets of turn out gear.

Article 13.

Voted majority to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept, on behalf of the Town, the real property shown on Assessor's Map 53, Block 85, located on White Birch Drive, Consisting of approximately .24 acres. As a gift from Susan W. Gagne, said land to be used for general municipal purposes.

Article 14.

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$5,000.00 to be used for activities in West Brookfield for the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Quaboag Plantation in 2010.

Article 15.

A motion was made and second to Passover Article 15.

The vote: **Unanimous Approval.**

Article 16.

Voted unanimously to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$75,000.00 to be placed in the Reserve Fund.

Article 17.

Voted unanimously to establish a new "Fire Truck Stabilization Account".

Article 18.

Voted unanimously to transfer from the Fleet Capital Account the sum of \$275,000.00 to be placed in the "Fire Truck Stabilization Account".

A motion was made and second to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM.

The vote: **Unanimous Approval.**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN**  
**SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**

**SS. Worcester**

To either of the Constables of the Town of West Brookfield

**GREETING:**

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in Elections to vote at

PRECINCT 0

POLLING LOCATION 1

SENIOR CENTER, 73 CENTRAL STREET

on **TUESDAY, THE FOURTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2008**, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Election for the candidates for the following offices:



ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT . . . . STATEWIDE  
 SENATOR IN CONGRESS.....FOR THE COMMONWEALTH  
 REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS.....FIRST DISTRICT  
 COUNCILLOR.....SEVENTH DISTRICT  
 SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT.....WORCESTER, HAMPDEN,  
 HAMPSHIRE & FRANKLIN DISTRICT  
 REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT.....5<sup>TH</sup> WORCESTER DISTRICT  
 REGISTER OF PROBATE.....WORCESTER COUNTY

**QUESTION 1: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION**

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2008?

**SUMMARY**

This proposed law would reduce the state personal income tax rate to 2.65% for all categories of taxable income for the tax year beginning on or after January 1, 2009, and would eliminate the tax for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2010.

The personal income tax applies to income received or gain realized by individuals and married couples, by estates of deceased persons, by certain trustees and other fiduciaries, by persons who are partners in and receive income from partnerships, by corporate trusts, and by persons who receive income as shareholders of “S corporations” as defined under federal tax law. The proposed law would not affect the tax due on income or gain realized in a tax year beginning before January 1, 2009.

The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

**A YES VOTE** would reduce the state personal income tax rate to 2.65% for the tax year beginning on January 1, 2009, and would eliminate the tax for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2010.

**A NO VOTE** would make no change in state income tax laws.

**QUESTION 2: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION**

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2008?

**SUMMARY**

This proposed law would replace the criminal penalties for possession of one ounce or less of marijuana with a new system of civil penalties, to be

enforced by issuing citations, and would exclude information regarding this civil offense from the state's criminal record information system. Offenders age 18 or older would be subject to forfeiture of the marijuana plus a civil penalty of \$100. Offenders under the age of 18 would be subject to the same forfeiture and, if they complete a drug awareness program within one year of the offense, the same \$100 penalty.

Offenders under 18 and their parents or legal guardian would be notified of the offense and the option for the offender to complete a drug awareness program developed by the state Department of Youth Services. Such programs would include ten hours of community service and at least four hours of instruction or group discussion concerning the use and abuse of marijuana and other drugs and emphasizing early detection and prevention of substance abuse.

The penalty for offenders under 18 who fail to complete such a program within one year could be increased to as much as \$1,000, unless the offender showed an inability to pay, an inability to participate in such a program, or the unavailability of such a program. Such an offender's parents could also be held liable for the increased penalty. Failure by an offender under 17 to complete such a program could also be a basis for a delinquency proceeding.

The proposed law would define possession of one ounce or less of marijuana as including possession of one ounce or less of tetrahydrocannabinol ("THC"), or having metabolized products of marijuana or THC in one's body.

Under the proposed law, possessing an ounce or less of marijuana could not be grounds for state or local government entities imposing any other penalty, sanction, or disqualification, such as denying student financial aid, public housing, public financial assistance including unemployment benefits, the right to operate a motor vehicle, or the opportunity to serve as a foster or adoptive parent. The proposed law would allow local ordinances or bylaws that prohibit the public use of marijuana, and would not affect existing laws, practices, or policies concerning operating a motor vehicle or taking other actions while under the influence of marijuana, unlawful possession of prescription forms of marijuana, or selling, manufacturing, or trafficking in marijuana.

The money received from the new civil penalties would go to the city or town where the offense occurred.

**A YES VOTE** would replace the criminal penalties for possession of one ounce or less of marijuana with a new system of civil penalties.

**A NO VOTE** would make no change in state criminal laws concerning possession of marijuana.

### **QUESTION 3: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION**

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2008?

**SUMMARY**

This proposed law would prohibit any dog racing or racing meeting in Massachusetts where any form of betting or wagering on the speed or ability of dogs occurs.

The State Racing Commission would be prohibited from accepting or approving any application or request for racing dates for dog racing.

Any person violating the proposed law could be required to pay a civil penalty of not less than \$20,000 to the Commission. The penalty would be used for the Commission’s administrative purposes, subject to appropriation by the state Legislature. All existing parts of the chapter of the state’s General Laws concerning dog and horse racing meetings would be interpreted as if they did not refer to dogs.

These changes would take effect January 1, 2010. The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

**A YES VOTE** would prohibit dog races on which betting or wagering occurs, effective January 1, 2010.

**A NO VOTE** would make no change in the laws governing dog racing.

*Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ A TRUE COPY. ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Selectmen of West Brookfield

\_\_\_\_\_  
Constable

Worcester, SS                      October \_\_\_\_\_, 2008 AM PM

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD by posting an attested copy of the same on the Bulletin Board in the front entrance of the WEST BROOKFIELD TOWN HALL fourteen (14) days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Constable of WEST BROOKFIELD

**STATE ELECTION  
NOVEMBER 4, 2008**

**ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT**

BALDWIN & CASTLE	9
BARR & ROOT	9
MCCAIN & PALIN	934
MCKINNEY & CLEMENTE	4
NADER & GONZALEZ	34
OBAMA & BIDEN	1,006
BLANKS	16
WRITE INS	15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,027</b>

**SENATOR IN CONGRESS (VOTE FOR ONE)**

JOHN F. KERRY	1,112
JEFFREY K. BEATTY	750
ROBERT J. UNDERWOOD	108
BLANKS	56
WRITE INS	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,027</b>

**REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS (VOTE FOR ONE)**

JOHN W. OLVER	1,282
NATHAN BECH	623
BLANKS	120
WRITE INS	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,027</b>

**COUNCILLOR (VOTE FOR ONE)**

THOMAS J. FOLEY	1,454
BLANKS	554
WRITE INS	19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,027</b>

**SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT (VOTE FOR ONE)**

STEPHEN M. BREWER	1,719
BLANKS	289
WRITE INS	19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,027</b>

**REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT (VOTE FOR**

<b>ONE)</b>	
ANNE M. GOBI	1,333
STEPHEN J. COMTOIS II	589
BLANKS	104
WRITE INS	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,027</b>

<b>REGISTER OF PROBATE (VOTE FOR ONE)</b>	
STEPHEN G. ABRAHAM	1,418
BLANKS	592
WRITE INS	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,027</b>

<b>QUESTION ONE</b>	
YES	562
NO	1,398
BLANKS	67
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,027</b>

<b>QUESTION TWO</b>	
YES	1,304
NO	662
BLANKS	61
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,027</b>

<b>QUESTION THREE</b>	
YES	1,086
NO	882
BLANKS	59
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,027</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah J. Allen, Town Clerk

# TREASURER

## CALENDAR YEAR END BALANCES

Balance of Cash/Investments-December 31, 2007	\$	1,997,554.13
Receipts – January 1 to December 31	\$	6,150,940.20
MTBE Settlement	\$	2,507,104.46
Interest Earned on Investments	\$	75,670.10
Transfers from Trust Fund	\$	159,553.33
Payments per Warrants	\$	<u>(6,579,646.28)</u>
	\$	4,311,175.94

## CASH

North Brookfield Savings Bank (Check Register)	\$	297,946.35
--	----	------------

## INVESTMENTS

Country Bank for Savings	\$	252,513.54
Century Bank & Trust	\$	49,291.04
Mass Municipal Depository Trust	\$	921,871.37
Savers Bank	\$	275,169.91
Smith Barney – MTBE Funds	\$	<u>2,514,383.47</u>
Total Cash/Investments, December 31, 2008	\$	4,311,175.68

## STABILIZATION FUND

Balance – December 31, 2007	\$	1,907,631.54
Interest Earned	\$	82,583.36
Appropriations/Transfers	\$	<u>(122,000.00)</u>
Balance – December 31, 2008	\$	1,868,215.36

## FIRE TRUCK STABILIZATION FUND

Balance December 31, 2007	\$	0.00
Appropriations/Transfer	\$	2,75,000.00
Interest	\$	<u>0.00</u>
Balance December 31, 2008	\$	275,000.00



CONSERVATION FUNDS	
Balance – December 31, 2007	\$ 5,648.92
Interest Earned	\$ 253.18
Expenditure	\$ 0.00
Balance – December 31, 2008	\$ <u>5,902.10</u>
CURB CUT ESCROW	
Balance – December 31, 2007	\$ 52,506.62
Interest Earned	\$ 2,354.55
Deposits	\$ 3,000.00
Reimbursements	\$ 4,950.00
Balance – December 31, 2008	\$ <u>53,629.09</u>
REHAB AND SEPTIC ACCOUNT	
Balance – December 31, 2007	\$ 205,382.53
Interest Earned	\$ 9,222.20
Participant Payments	\$ 1,716.32
Balance – December 31, 2008	\$ <u>216,321.05</u>
SELF INSURANCE TRUST FUND	
Balance – December 31, 2007	\$ 43,969.38
Interest Earned	\$ 1,970.72
Balance – December 31, 2008	\$ <u>45,940.10</u>
TRUST FUND BALANCES	
Quaboag Park	\$ 80,578.95
Pine Grove Cemetery	\$ 295,213.95
Merriam Gilbert Library	\$ 173,421.38
Fairfax Fund (Ayres Monument)	\$ 3,645.85
Margaret Preisach Magnante Fund	\$ 27,183.37
Priscilla E. Side Fund	\$ 8,290.99
Common Committee Trust	\$ 10,062.34



Historical Commission Trust	\$	63,522.67
Recreation Committee	\$	6,504.58
Brady Fund	\$	75.57
Lucy Stone Birthplace Account	\$	775.05
Town Hall Interior Fund – W. Reynis	\$	36,956.41

TRUST FUND INVESTMENT INCOME

Quaboag Park	\$	3,539.56
Pine Grove Cemetery	\$	10,684.95
Merriam Gilbert Library	\$	6,993.98

Fairfax Fund (Ayres Monument)	\$	156.39
Margaret Preisach Magnante Fund	\$	1,170.50
Priscilla E. Side Fund	\$	355.66
Common Committee Trust	\$	484.81
Historical Commission Trust	\$	2,740.80
Recreation Committee	\$	386.27
Brady Fund	\$	3.24
Lucy Stone Birthplace Account	\$	33.25
Town Hall Interior Fund – W. Reynis	\$	1,598.85
TAX TITLE		
Tax Title Redemptions	\$	68,095.48
Tax Title Interest	\$	36,931.87
Recovery of Tax Title Expense and Legal Fees	\$	7,301.06
INTEREST EARNED JANUARY 1, 2008 TO DECEMBER 31, 2008		
General Funds	\$	75,670.10
Stabilization Funds	\$	82,583.36
Conservation Funds	\$	253.18
Trust Funds	\$	28,148.26
Curb Cut Escrow	\$	2,354.55
Rehab and Septic System Account	\$	9,222.20
Self Insurance Trust Fund	\$	1,970.72

During 2008, investment income continued downward. However, the \$200,202.37 investment income for all funds is still substantial. The general fund portion of \$75,670.10 is available to fund the current year's budget and the other amounts are available through future appropriations.

The Town of West Brookfield participates in the Medicare Part D subsidy program. In 2008, the Treasurer's office applied for and received \$4,995.81 to subsidize the health care we provide for our retirees. Applications for future years have been submitted.

Many West Brookfield committees continue to receive generous contributions annually from the Irving and Jane England Charitable Trust. Likewise, the bequests from former Town Treasurer Walter Reynis for improvements to the Senior Center and Town Hall interior have been exceptionally helpful in completing both projects.

We continue to resolve many of the outstanding tax title liens by payment or foreclosure. Every effort is made to encourage delinquents to settle their liens. In 2008, four large balance liens were paid along with the typical payment activity. Payments of \$112,328.41 will be available to close out as free cash at the end of the fiscal year. All expenses to effect payment are reimbursed by the delinquent upon final payment. Our office also received several foreclosure judgments in 2008.

The Treasurer's office continues to assist the Board of Health in administering the Septic System Loan Program. A local community bank assists with the billing and collection of quarterly payments.

Recently the Town updated the website to [www.wbrookfield.com](http://www.wbrookfield.com). In the future we expect to post lists of tailings (un-cashed checks deemed to be abandoned) as well as other interesting information.

Our department has run smoothly over the past several years. We would like to thank the other departments who have worked co-operatively to provide the best possible service to the West Brookfield community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Keith R. Arsenault, Town Treasurer

# WATER DEPARTMENT

The Water Commissioners are pleased to submit the following annual report for the year 2008. The Water Commissioners are Robert Benson, Chairperson; Barry Nadon Sr., Clerk; and Lester Paquette; Ronald Marchessault, Superintendent; Wesley Cassavant, Operator; and Jean Wrobel, Clerk/Collector. Any of us can be reached by calling **(508) 867-1421 ext. 306** or the Filtration Plant at **(508) 867-1412**.

This year as you may know the Town, through the office of the Water Department, received a settlement from various oil companies for MTBE (Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether) a gasoline additive, which was found in the Water Department's two wells. We have been working for ten (10) years on the litigation and are pleased with the outcome. These levels are well below EPA and state guidelines. We continue to monitor these levels and are very confident these levels will go down even further. Any questions regarding this matter or any other, please call the numbers listed above.

This money has been put in a Water Stabilization account at the January 2009 Special Town Meeting. This money will help us to upgrade an aging water system and we look forward to your support in utilizing these monies.

Our main well was installed in the early 1960s. It was installed with a 15-foot shutter screen. This screen is nearly impossible to clean, which has us cleaning the well annually. Recommendations are that we install a new well. We have drilled a test well and are waiting for the results.

This spring we will be replacing and upgrading the water main under the Quaboag River on Long Hill Road. This main goes to our storage tank and, like our other mains, it is approaching 100 years old. Funding through the USDA and a grant we received will pay for this project.

We continue to repair and upgrade the distribution system and also the Filtration Plant. Our staff receives training yearly to comply with requirements and maintain the water system. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,  
The West Brookfield Water Department

# SIXTEENTH ANNUAL WHITE CHRISTMAS IN WEST BROOKFIELD

The White Christmas in West Brookfield Committee is pleased to report another successful event held on Sunday, December 7, 2008.

Horse drawn wagons shuttled happy revelers around the Common while craft shows, carolers, Father Christmas, Frosty the Snowman and chestnuts roasted on an open fire filling the area with activities. This year the Sturbridge Militia, dressed in their Colonial clothing, shared their fire with guests.

Open houses with free refreshments and raffles were held by area businesses, in and around the Common.

The highlight of the day's activities included the lighting of the tree on the Common and the concert in the Great Hall, where Mr. John "Jack" Cregan was posthumously named Citizen of the Year.

It should be noted that all committee members are volunteers and worked tirelessly to achieve such a successful event for the Town of West Brookfield.

Respectfully submitted,  
Madeline R. Arn, Chairperson

# WIRING INSPECTOR

The following is a compilation of permits received by the Wiring Inspector for 2008:

4	Single family homes
2	Additions
12	Renovations
1	Three-season room
2	Out-buildings
17	New services
2	Temporary services
10	Pools
7	Security systems
2	Furnaces
7	Miscellaneous
1	Generator

Respectfully submitted,  
Donald Puduski, Wiring Inspector

# ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals saw a slight decline in activity for 2008. We granted only fifteen (15) Special Permits. The Board is still in litigation with one applicant.

The Board was represented as follows: Dave Broschart, Chairman; Kevin Dorman, Member; Dick Aube, Member; George Hibbard and Joan Veinot are Alternate Members.

The Board advises any applicants to purchase a Zoning By-Law Booklet before completing the application and submitting it to the ZBA. Applications can be obtained from the Town Clerk's Office. There is a required signature from the Tax Collector stating that all taxes are up to date, and a letter from the Zoning Enforcement Officer stating that a Building Permit has been denied before an application can be accepted for a hearing. Other documents and plans may also be required. Applications are presented to the Board at the monthly meeting. If all paperwork is in order, a hearing can be scheduled.

The Board meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Lower Level Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Broschart, Chairman  
Kevin Dorman, Member  
Dick Aube, Member  
George Hibbard, Alternate Member  
Joan Veinot, Alternate Member



# ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Regular office hours were maintained to assist the Building Inspector to expedite permit required projects in assuring compliance to the Town of West Brookfield Zoning Bylaws. During the 2008 year, this office has taken and responded to one hundred and ninety-six (196) phone calls and two hundred and four (204) e-mail requests.

Twenty-two (22) projects were documented and referred to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) for special permit or variance. One project was documented and referred to the Planning Board for further clarification prior to approval. Two property owners were fined for starting a project without a proper permit. One project forced me to work with Town Counsel and required many letters and documents, including an appearance in Land Court in Boston, but both parties were able to come to a compromise prior to the final meeting in court.

There were several instances that required letters to be sent to property owners identifying zoning infractions and requesting that they comply with the Zoning Bylaws for the Town of West Brookfield. In most cases, these infractions were corrected immediately. However, in some cases, further communication and follow up was needed.

Cooperation and compliance with Zoning Bylaws, decisions of the Zoning Enforcement Officer, ZBA, Planning Board, and respect for neighbors is appreciated and helps to reduce the cost to the Town of West

Brookfield, when issues can be settled without the need for Town Counsel.

Copies of the Town of West Brookfield Zoning Bylaws are available from the Town Clerk, or you may go to the town web site to view or print them.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary M. Simeone, Zoning Enforcement Officer

# INDEX

<b>ADA COORDINATOR</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>ANIMAL INSPECTOR</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>ANNUAL SALARY</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>ASPARAGUS &amp; FLOWER HERITAGE FESTIVAL</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>BOARD OF ASSESSORS</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>BOARD OF HEALTH</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>BOARD OF REGISTRARS</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>BURIAL GROUND COMMISSION</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>COMMON COMMITTEE</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>CONSERVATION COMMITTEE</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>COUNCIL ON AGING</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>EARTH REMOVAL BOARD</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>GAS &amp; PLUMBING INSPECTOR</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATOR</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>DROP-OFF CENTER</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>HISTORICAL COMMISSION</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>HOUSING AUTHORITY</b>	<b>37</b>

<b>INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>LAKE WICKABOAG PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>LIBRARY</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>LIST OF APPOINTED OFFICIALS</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>LIST OF ELECTED OFFICIALS</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>PLANNING BOARD</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>PUBLIC ACCESS TELEVISION</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>RESCUE SQUAD</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>RIGHT TO KNOW COORDINATOR</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>TAX COLLECTOR</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>TOWN CLERK REPORT</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>COMBINED BALANCE SHEET</b>	<b>122</b>
<b>WATER DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>123</b>
<b>WHITE CHRISTMAS IN WEST BROOKFIELD</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>WIRING INSPECTOR</b>	<b>126</b>
<b>ZONING BOARD OF APEALS</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER</b>	<b>128</b>